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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS:* indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Islamic Affairs

ICO Urges Iran, Iraq To Reach Agreement *[SPA]* 1

Palestinian Affairs

Mubarak's 10 Points Called 'Egyptian Questions' 1
'Abd-al-Majid Comments *[AL-MADINAH 14 Sep]* 1
Media Handling of Questions *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* 2
PFLP Statement Rejects Plan *[Paris Radio]* 2
PLO's Qaddumi Says U.S. Dialogue Continuing *[MENA]* 2
'Arafat To Mediate Between Egypt, Libya *[WAKH]* 2
Palestinian-Israeli Talks Proposed in Cairo *[AL-WATAN 15 Sep]* 3
Qaddumi Voices Regret Over Israel-Hungary Ties *[WAKH]* 3
PFLP Criticizes Diplomatic Ties *[Paris Radio]* 4
PFLP-GC Spokesman Acknowledges Israeli Raid *[Al-Quds Radio]* 4
PLO Officials Meet Sweden's Andersson in Amman *[AL-DUSTUR 21 Sep]* 4
'Arafat Chairs Fatah Central Committee Meeting *[INA]* 4
PLO Team Holds Economic Talks With Waldegrave
[London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI 14 Sep] 4
Fatah's Khalid Al-Hasan on Current Situation *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 13 Sep]* 4
PLO Official Comments on New 'Political Plan' *[INA]* 7
Organization Reportedly Planning Name Change *[Tunis Radio]* 8
Radio Clarifies Not Broadcasting 'Local' Calls *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* 8

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Hamrouch Grants Interview After News Conference *[Paris International]* 9
National Liberation Front Congress Opens 19 Sep *[Algiers Radio]* 9
Mehri Addresses FLN Conference *[APS]* 10
News Agency Comments on Government Program *[APS]* 10
RCD Issues Outline of 'Future Program' *[Algiers Radio]* 11

Egypt

Mubarak, 'Arafat To Meet in 'Next Few Days' *[MENA]* 11
'Arafat Arrives in Cairo *[MENA]* 11
Mubarak Speaks to Israeli Reporters on 'Future' *[Jerusalem International]* 11
Further on Mubarak's Statements *[MENA]* 14
'Abd-al-Majid on Response to Mubarak Plan *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 14 Sep]* 15
Foreign Minister Briefs Arab, EC Envoys on Plan *[Cairo Radio]* 15
PRC's Qian Meets Mubarak, Delivers Message *[MENA]* 16
Meets People's Assembly Speaker *[MENA]* 16
Meets Consultative Council Speaker *[MENA]* 16
Holds News Conference *[MENA]* 16
Paper Says Shamir's 'Delusions' Shatter Optimism *[MENA]* 17
Romanian National Assembly Delegation Arrives *[MENA]* 17

Mubarak Receives Romanian Delegation *[MENA]* 17
Information Minister on Israeli Satellites *[MENA]* 18
Ministers To Testify in Egypt's Revolution Case *[AL-AHRAM 19 Sep]* 18

Sudan

Ethiopia To Halt Aid to Sudanese Rebels 1 Oct *[MENA]* 18
SPLA on Suspension of Aid *[AFP]* 19
SPLA Official Denies Receiving Aid *[BBC]* 19
Garang Discusses National Political Issues *[AL-ITTIHAD 16 Sep]* 20
Armed Forces Paper Views Dialogue Conference *[Omdurman Radio]* 22
Government Adopts Economic Reform Program *[Omdurman Radio]* 22
Former Interior Minister Discusses Escape, Coup *[BBC]* 24
Darfur Region Supervisor Addresses Rally *[SUNA]* 25
Courts Authorize Presence of Defense Lawyers *[Omdurman Radio]* 25
Death Sentence Proposed for Drug Dealing *[Omdurman Radio]* 25
Arrests for Foreign Currency Dealings Reported *[SUNA]* 26
New Political Daily Begins Publication *[MENA]* 26
Radio Juba To Extend Transmission Schedule *[Omdurman Radio]* 26
Government Decides To Cease Sugar Imports *[SUNA]* 26
Correction to Soviet Envoy Stresses Support 26

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Chad's Foreign Minister Delivers Habre Message *[Ndjamena Radio]* 27

PDRY

Burkina Faso's Compaore Leaves for Home *[Aden Radio]* 27

Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Interior Statement on Hajj Violence *[Riyadh Radio]* 27

IRAQ

ACC Secretary General Departs After Meetings *[INA]* 30
Paper Criticizes ACC Move *[INA]* 30
Coverage of Official British Delegation's Visit 30
Hammadi, Jasim Receive Delegation *[INA]* 30
Tariq 'Aziz Receives Group *[Baghdad Radio]* 30
Minister Receives Delegation *[INA]* 30
Reportage on Visiting Malian Delegation 31
Minister Meets Delegation *[INA]* 31
Party Talks Begin *[Baghdad Radio]* 31
Minister Meets Visiting Official From GDR *[INA]* 31

ISRAEL

Mubarak Interviewed on 10-Point Plan, Talks *[Jerusalem Radio]* 32
Coalition Members Comment *[Jerusalem Radio]* 32
Ministers Reject 10-Point Plan *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 33
USSR Supports Mubarak Plan *[Jerusalem Radio]* 34
Novik on Peace Initiative *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
Arens on Possibility of Meeting With Shevardnadze *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
Shamir's Aides Deny Mubarak Visit Planned *[Jerusalem Radio]* 34
Rabin Briefs Shamir on Talks With Mubarak *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
Frayj Declares Mubarak-Rabin Meeting 'Success' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 35
Prime Minister Says No Need To End Coalition *[Jerusalem Radio]* 35

Al-Saftawi Favors Joint Palestinian Delegation *[AL-SHA'B 15 Sep]* 35
'Arafat Associates, Israelis Hold Indirect Talks *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Sep]* 35
Arens Returns, Comments on Ties With Hungary *[Jerusalem Radio]* 36
Agreement on Communications Signed With Hungary *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 36
Energy Minister Shahal Offers Deal to USSR *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 36
PRC Tourism Agency Described as 'Significant' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 37
Agreement Signed With Egypt on Refugee Transfer *[Jerusalem Radio]* 37
Italy Signs Accord on War Against Drugs, Crime *[HADASHOT 19 Sep]* 37
South American Nation To Purchase Spy Plane *[HA'ARETZ 17 Sep]* 38
Demonstration Staged for Release of Anne Pollard *[Jerusalem Radio]* 38
'Deep Concern' Over Syrian Nuclear Research *[MA'ARIV 17 Sep]* 38
Radio Comments on King Husayn's 18 Sep Speech *[Jerusalem International]* 38
Report Says Husayn Could Return to Talks *[HADASHOT 21 Sep]* 39
CPI Rises 1.2 Percent During Month of August *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
Air Force Bombs PFLP-GC Bases in al-Na'imah *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
IDF, SLA Cannons Shell Terrorist Targets *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
Death Toll Reported *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
Violence, Strikes, Curfews in Territories 40
Curfew Extended; Strike Called *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
General Strike Marks Massacre *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 41
3 Soldiers Injured in Gaza *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 41
2 Hurt in West Bank Stonings *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Update on Strike, Riots *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Most Curfews Lifted 42
Man Dies in Clash With Army *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
Curfew Imposed After Stoning *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
Fatalities in Occupied Territories Reported 42
IDF Figures Disputed *[HA'OLAM HAZE 20 Sep]* 42
115 Children Die in Uprising *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
Palestinian Sources Say 100 Deported to Jordan *[AL HAMISHMAR 15 Sep]* 43
Soldier Jailed for Not Serving Near Nabulus *[Jerusalem Radio]* 43
Two Jordanians Captured Crossing Border 17 Sep *[Jerusalem TV]* 43
IDF Responds *[THE JERUSALEM POST 21 Sep]* 43

JORDAN

Swedish Minister, King, Queen Continue Visit 44
Prime Minister Meets Andersson *[Amman Radio]* 44
Prince Hosts Swedish King *[Amman Radio]* 44
King Receives Andersson *[Amman TV]* 44
Swedish Minister Interviewed *[Amman TV]* 44
Andersson Discusses Talks *[Amman Radio]* 45
Peace Process Reviewed *[Stockholm Radio]* 45
Paper Welcomes Renewed Lebanon Committee Efforts *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 17 Sep]* 46

LEBANON

'Awn Insists on Foreign Armies' Withdrawal *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 14 Sep]* 47
'Awn Accuses U.S. of 'Exploiting' Hostages Issue *[VOL]* 47
Al-Huss Phones Sfayr, Sa'adah, Sham'un 20 Sep *[Voice of National Resistance]* 48
Birri Leaves for Tehran; Junblatt Said To Follow *[Beirut Radio]* 48
Soviet Envoy Urges Support for Arab Committee *[RFL]* 48
Peace Activists Arrive in Juniyah From Cyprus *[VOL]* 48
Humanitarian Aid Ship Arrives at Beirut Port *[VOL]* 48
Gunmen Assassinate Deputy al-Qadiri, Aide 21 Sep *[Beirut Radio]* 49
Islamic Resistance Claims Attack on Qiryat Shemona *[AFP]* 49
Israeli Planes Attack al-Na'imah Area 20 Sep *[VOM]* 49
4 Injured in 'Raids' *[VOM]* 49
Further on Raid *[AFP]* 49
Resistance Repulses Israeli Advance Toward Maydun *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 49
Resistance Issues Statement *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 50

Israeli Advance Reported *[RFL]* 50
'Unidentified' Gunboats, Israeli Overflights Noted *[Beirut Radio]* 50
Several Killed in Israeli-Resistance Clash *[Beirut Radio]* 50
Israeli Activities in South Reported *[Beirut Radio]* 50
Israeli Movements, Reinforcements Monitored *[Voice of National Resistance]* 51
Fighting With Syrians Flares on Mountain 20 Sep *[VOL]* 51
Syrian Tank Destroyed *[VOL]* 51
1 Killed, 6 Injured *[VOL]* 51
Fighting Reported on Beirut Combat Lines 19 Sep *[VOL]* 51
Kasrawan, Jubayl Areas Shelled *[RFL]* 51
National Front Artillery Confronts Maritime Target *[VOM]* 52
Traditional Lines Quiet; Maritime Targets Attacked *[Beirut Radio]* 52
Casualties Claimed in Resistance Operation *[VOM]* 52
16 January Group Claims Attacks Against Syrians *[VOL]* 52

SYRIA

Al-Shar' Returns After Signing Memo With Iran *[Damascus Radio]* 53
Joint Statement Issued *[Damascus Radio]* 53

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Rebels To Intensify Attacks on Airports *[AFP]* 54
10 Killed in Rebel Missile Attack on Kabul *[Kabul Radio]* 54
Najibullah Addresses 'Defenders of Revolution' *[BAKHTAR]* 54
Najibullah Receives Salang District Officials *[Kabul Radio]* 55
Correction to Najibullah Jalalabad Speech 55
Mujahidin To Search for Missing Pakistan Airliner *[Islamabad International]* 56

Bangladesh

Police Arms Seizures at Dhaka University Detailed *[Dhaka Radio]* 56
Awami League Head Opposes Violence, Terrorism *[Dhaka Radio]* 56

India

Joint Commission Meeting With China Detailed *[Delhi TV]* 57
Economic Meeting With Turkey Begins 19 Sep *[Delhi TV]* 57
Protocol Signed 20 Sep *[Ankara ANATOLIA]* 57
Bilateral Trade To Increase *[Delhi Radio]* 57
U.S., Pakistan Dilemma on Afghanistan Viewed *[INDIAN EXPRESS 8 Sep]* 57

Iran

Rafsanjani Speech to Revolutionary Guard Officials *[Tehran Radio]* 58
Daily Views Rafsanjani Remarks *[IRNA]* 60
Reportage on Visit of Syrian Foreign Minister 61
Al-Shar', Velayati Statements 18 Sep *[Damascus Radio]* 61
Rafsanjani Meets Al-Shar' 20 Sep *[Tehran Radio]* 61
Al-Shar' Sees 'Positive Results' *[IRNA]* 62
Velayati Interviewed on Visit *[Tehran Radio]* 62
'Text' of Iran-Syria Statement on Visit *[Tehran Radio]* 62
Paper Calls Al-Shar' Visit 'Important' *[IRNA]* 63
France To Settle Financial Disputes, Expand Ties *[IRNA]* 63
U.S. Congress Support for Rebels Criticized *[ETTELAAT 9 Sep]* 64
Arrested 'U.S. Spy' Outlines Activities *[TEHRAN TIMES 12 Sep]* 64
'Spy' Outlines Recruitment, Training, U.S. Plans *[TEHRAN TIMES 14 Sep]* 65
Mines Minister Receives Italian Trade Delegation *[Tehran Radio]* 65
FRG Seeking Expanded Economic Ties With Iran *[IRNA]* 65

Karrubi Urges Closer Ties With Gulf Nations *[IRNA]* 66
Velayati Meets Afghan Islamic Coalition Members *[Tehran Radio]* 66
Hakim Alleges 3 Iraqi Army Coup Attempts *[IRNA]* 66
UN's Goulding Continues Visit to Iran 67
Received by Velayati 19 Sep *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Visits UNIIMOG at Western Front *[IRNA]* 67
Commentary Views UNIIMOG Mission *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Khamene'i Addresses Hizballah Supporters *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Khamene'i Names Defense Ministry Religious Chief *[Tehran Radio]* 68
Military Parades Announced for Defense Week *[Tehran Radio]* 68
Naval Commander Notes Armed Forces' Readiness *[Tehran Radio]* 69

Maldives

Indian Troops in Maldives To Withdraw 3 Nov *[AFP]* 69
Death Sentence Commuted for 16 in Coup Attempt *[AFP]* 69

Nepal & Bhutan

Reportage on Nepali Congress Party Demonstration 70
Opposition Leaders Arrested *[Delhi Radio]* 70
1,200 Activists, Students Arrested *[AFP]* 70
Police Continue To Detain 21 People *[Delhi Radio]* 70
King Returns Home After 17-Day Foreign Tour *[AFP]* 71
Export Earnings Down, Foreign Currency Tightened *[AFP]* 71

Pakistan

Senate Informed of Nuclear Power Plans *[Islamabad International]* 72
Bhutto Visits Late Punjab Assembly Member's Home *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Bhutto on Differences Between Punjab, Government *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Bail Petitions Submitted for Two FIA Officers *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Official Statement on FIA Arrests *[Islamabad Radio]* 72
Minor Reshuffle of Cabinet Reported *[Islamabad Radio]* 73
Yaqub Khan Speaks on Foreign Policy 20 Sep *[Islamabad Radio]* 73
Cypriot Foreign Minister Visits, Meets Leaders 73
Meets Yaqub Khan *[Nicosia Radio]* 73
Meets President, Bhutto *[Islamabad Radio]* 73
Clashes Reported at Karachi Colleges; 6 Injured *[Islamabad Radio]* 74
DAWN Discusses Zahir Shah Role in Afghanistan *[11 Sep]* 74

Islamic Affairs

ICO Urges Iran, Iraq To Reach Agreement

LD2008223389 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1753 GMT 20 Aug 89

[Text] Jeddah 20 Aug (SPA)—The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] Permanent Secretariat has called upon Iraq and Iran to try harder within the framework of their direct negotiations under the auspices of the UN secretary general to implement Security Council Resolution 598 rapidly and comprehensively and to find a just, permanent, and lasting peace between the two Muslim countries.

The communique, which was issued by Dr Hamid Algabid, the ICO secretary-general, today, Sunday, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the cease-fire of the Iraq-Iran war, urged ICO member countries, UN Security Council permanent members and the international community to provide the necessary support and consolidation for the efforts being made in this direction. The ICO Permanent Secretariat expressed appreciation for the UN secretary general's efforts to see through the peace process between the two countries. It also hailed Iraq's and Iran's acceptance of the Security Council Resolution 598 on 20 August 1988 stipulating the halting of military operations between them and starting their talks under the auspices of the UN Security Council with the aim of arriving at a comprehensive, just, and lasting solution to the conflict.

Palestinian Affairs

Mubarak's 10 Points Called 'Egyptian Questions'

'Abd-al-Majid Comments

JN1709142789 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 14 Sep 89 pp 1, 3

[By Muhammad 'Ali al-Qulaybi from Tunis]

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has said that the initiative recently launched by President Husni Mubarak on the election plan of Yitzhaq Shamir represents a host of questions sent to the Israeli side.

In an exclusive statement to AL-MADINAH, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid added that President Husni Mubarak's plan calls on the Israeli side to clarify the objective behind the elections, the atmosphere and circumstances under which the elections will be held, and the guarantees that might be provided for these elections.

The Egyptian foreign minister noted that clarification of these issues is important. He added that these clarifications will specifically determine the Egyptian stand. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid went on to say that this also shows Egypt's support for the Palestinian brothers and its readiness to help in all endeavors that might help them realize their objectives, considering that Egypt is keen on seeing the Palestinian people realize their legitimate right to self-determination.

The Egyptian foreign minister affirmed that his country is coordinating with the PLO. He announced that the Washington visit to be made by President Husni Mubarak by the end of September will contribute to serving Arab and African issues. He asserted that this visit will largely serve these issues, as President Mubarak is preoccupied with Arab and African issues.

Regarding the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue and the obstacles faced in its fourth round, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid stressed that Egypt views this dialogue as an important thing that must be maintained despite the obstacles and problems facing it. He added that Egypt is aware of these obstacles and problems. He pointed out that the advantages gained by the continuation of this dialogue outweigh those gained by its discontinuation. He added: I believe that the Palestinian leadership is aware that this dialogue can serve as a vehicle for making known its stands and also for discussing any issues it wants discussed with the U.S. side. He went on to say that Egypt always tells the U.S. side that the launching of the dialogue is actually and factually tantamount to recognition of the PLO as a party that has a role to play in the Palestian people's self-determination, because the United States can never hold a dialogue with a mirage or a nonexistent thing. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said: Hence, I would like to affirm that Egypt is one of the parties that support and encourage this dialogue. Egypt is also eager to see this dialogue tackle substantial issues touching on the core of the Palestine question rather than confine itself to discussion of marginal topics. He affirmed that the hurdles standing in the way of this dialogue must not frighten us and we must not believe that these hurdles will just vanish. Therefore, the dialogue must be continued so that we can overcome these hurdles, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid added.

Concerning the mediation effort launched by President Husni Mubarak between Senegal and Mauritania in his capacity as OAU chairman, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said that the visits recently made by President Husni Mubarak to Mauritania and Senegal are the first meetings held within the framework of the mission entrusted to the president by the OAU. He added that these visits were important in that they enabled the OAU chairman to maintain a form of contact between the parties to the dispute and also to listen to them. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said: President Mubarak was eager to achieve this. He asked the two states to take the measures required to lessen tension between the two countries. A six-minister committee will meet on 5 October in New York to discuss this issue and submit the results of its meetings to President Husni Mubarak in his capacity as OAU chairman.

Concluding his statement, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said that there are positive indicators about resolving the Mauritanian-Senegalese dispute. Egypt hopes that these

indicators will be translated into acts and deeds, the Egyptian foreign minister said.

Media Handling of Questions

JN1609183489 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1741 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Brothers, commenting on what is known in the news media as the Egyptian 10 points, the Palestinian News Agency [WAFA] political editor said:

News media and news agencies have recently been focusing on what they call the Egyptian 10 points on holding elections in the occupied Palestinian territories. In fact, they have gone far beyond this. They described these points as an Egyptian peace plan or initiative, while the truth is not at all like this.

The whole story is that these 10 points are Egyptian questions on the issue of elections that were proposed by Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. However, he did not receive any answers to these questions. This was recently confirmed officially by Egypt through 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Brother Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, raised this issue at the recent session of the Arab League Council which concluded the day before yesterday. He stressed that the fraternal Arab Republic of Egypt has posed questions that were depicted by the news media, contrary to the truth, as being a 10-point plan. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, who led his country's delegation to the Arab League session, concurred that they are not any more than questions, adding that Egypt has not yet received any answers to these questions.

Perhaps this confirmation of the truth of this issue saves us from making an assessment of or discussing the details and dimensions of what the news media want to call, forcibly and contrary to the truth, an Egyptian initiative.

PFLP Statement Rejects Plan

JN2009153489 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] Political Bureau has issued a statement reiterating the PFLP's position on President Husni Mubarak's plan for elections in the occupied Palestinian territories. The statement described it as a suspect plan aimed at peddling the Shamir plan and ignoring the Palestinian people's national rights.

The statement adds that the Egyptian plan tries to bypass the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and to circumvent the international endeavor to convene a fully authorized international conference to resolve the Middle East crisis.

The statement hails the popular intifadah [uprising], acknowledging it to be the path to freedom and independence. The statement refers to the Political Bureau's call for a number of activities to enhance the role of the Unified National Leadership of the intifadah and to entrench the unity of the national Palestinian stance. This stance is based on adherence to national constants and rejection of the Shamir-Mubarak plan, as the statement put it. The statement stressed the need for action to secure the continuation, entrenchment, and escalation of the intifadah in order to inflict further economic, human, political, amd moral losses on the Israelis.

PLO's Qaddumi Says U.S. Dialogue Continuing

NC2009161589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 20 Sep (MENA)—Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, has stated that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is continuing. Its continuation is "necessary," he said, despite the differences between the two sides.

In an interview with the Tunisian paper Al-SAHAFAH published today, Qaddumi said: We will continue our dialogue with Washington for many years until it changes its bias toward Israel. He noted that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue will continue even if Washington refuses to grant Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat an entry visa to attend the UN General Assembly sessions.

The PLO official also confirmed that no Palestinian-Israeli meeting was held during Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's recent visit to Cairo. He said that the presence of PLO Executive Committee members Mahmud Darwish and 'Abdallah Hurani in Cairo at that time had nothing to do with Rabin's Cairo visit.

Regarding Hungary's decision to resume its diplomatic relations with Israel, the Palestinian official expressed regret at the decision. But he stressed that the Warsaw Pact countries are still committed to the Palestinians' right to self-determination. He said: We distinguish between the restoration of relations and the firm principled stand of support for our national legitimate rights.

'Arafat To Mediate Between Egypt, Libya

JN2009174089 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1335 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 20 Sep (WAKH)—Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has confirmed that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat is now mediating between Egypt and Libya.

In an interview with the Tunisian newspaper AL-SAHAFAH, published today, Qaddumi said 'Arafat's recent visit to Cairo aimed at mediating between Egypt and Libya and bringing closer the viewpoints of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Qaddumi did not, however, elaborate on the progress made by the Palestinian mediation.

The Palestinian leader had earlier paid two brief visits to Cairo and Tripoli.

Qaddumi denied reports that 'Arafat's recent visit to Cairo was linked to President Mubarak's plan on elections in the occupied territories or to an indirect meeting with the Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who recently paid a short visit to the Egyptian capital.

The head of the PLO Political Department touched upon President Mubarak's plan, stating that everything that has been said about Mubarak's points as a plan is unfounded and mere propaganda.

Qaddumi described this plan as nothing more than questions originally addressed to Israel, indicating that the PLO is not required to respond to them.

Regarding reports that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is threatened with interruption due to the U.S. Administration's refusal to grant an entry visa to President 'Arafat to attend the UN General Assembly's deliberations, Qaddumi stressed that dialogue is continuing and its continuation is essential in spite of the existing differences.

Qaddumi concluded by saying that we will continue our dialogue with Washington for many, many years until it abandons its bias in favor of Israel.

Palestinian-Israeli Talks Proposed in Cairo

JN1609173389 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 15 Sep 89 p 21

[Text] Cairo—AL-WATAN has obtained from informed Egyptian sources the complete text of the Egyptian proposal for holding direct negotiations between Palestinian and Israeli delegations in Cairo. The Egyptian proposal was carried by Abba Evan, former Israeli foreign minister, to the Israeli Labor Party and Israeli Government. The Egyptian proposal includes the following arrangements:

1. The Egyptian Government will call for holding direct negotiations between the Israeli and Palestinian sides in Cairo. Egypt will participate in the first session of talks. The Palestinian side will include PLO representatives. During the negotiations, the two sides will study and approve the Egyptian 10-point initiative as a basis for starting peace procedures in the region.

2. The second session of negotiations will also be held in Cairo and will be attended by the U.S. ambassador in Cairo and the Egyptian foreign minister. The level of this session will be higher than that of the first session. Egypt suggests that the Israeli delegation to this round of talks include the director of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office and a number of aides to the Israeli foreign minister. The Palestinian delegation will include the officials who participated in the four-session U.S.-Palestinian dialogue in Tunis. Egypt also does not object to U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau's participation in this session.

3. During the second round of negotiations, a period of time will be given to the Israeli and Palestinian sides to study the various opinions and ideas put forth during the two rounds of negotiations. Egypt and the United States will play a positive role in approximating the views of the two sides.

4. Egypt believes that the period proposed for these rounds of negotiations and the period of time defined for study purposes will not exceed 2 months. If points of agreement are reached at the end of this period, the two sides and the other participants will be invited by Egypt, the United States, and the Soviet Union to set a date for elections in the occupied territories in accordance with concerted conditions.

The sources told AL-WATAN that the Egyptian 10-point initiative will be the main subject of discussion during the two rounds of negotiations.

In another development, AL-WATAN has learned that during their telephone conversation the day before yesterday, Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat discussed the recent Egyptian proposal. 'Arafat stressed the need to work out a plan for international supervision of the elections in the occupied territories as well as the laws under which the elections will be held.

'Arafat also stressed that the Palestinian side has prepared a comprehensive Palestinian position on the Egyptian initiative which will be submitted to Egypt in a comprehenisve memorandum next week. He also said that he might visit Cairo to acquaint President Mubarak and Egyptian officials with the Palestinian viewpoint. The sources added that Mubarak informed 'Arafat that he would welcome the Palestinian viewpoint, pointing out that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry would pay special attention to that viewpoint as soon as Egypt is informed of its details.

Qaddumi Voices Regret Over Israel-Hungary Ties

JN2009143289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 20 Sep (WAKH)—Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has expressed deep regret over Hungary's resumption of diplomatic ties with Israel.

In a news statement published here today, Qaddumi said the resumption of diplomatic relations between Hungary and Israel is not considered a prelude to the abandonment by Warsaw Pact countries of their former positions toward the Israeli presence in occupied Palestine, especially since they are still committed to our right to self-determination.

Qaddumi stated that the PLO differentiates between the resumption of ties with Israel and the firm and principled stance in support of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to establish their independent state.

The Hungarian Government had, the day before yesterday, decided to resume diplomatic relations with Israel.

PFLP Criticizes Diplomatic Ties

JN2009174689 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has denounced Hungary's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Israel, especially in terms of its timing, which coincides with the continuation of the Israeli repressive measures against citizens in the occupied territories and Israel's continuing denial of the Palestinian people's rights.

PFLP-GC Spokesman Acknowledges Israeli Raid

JN2009192489 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1810 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] A military spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following:

At 1445 today, according to blessed al-Aqsa mosque time, the Zionist enemy warplanes twice bombed the PFLP-GC operations support positions in the al-Na'imah hills in southern Lebanon, drawing ground fire. The PFLP-GC's special unit deluded the raiding planes by using barrels of heavy smoke which hampered visibility and prevented the enemy warplanes from achieving their aims. Thus they were forced to drop their bombs haphazardly from high altitude. The bombardment resulted in slight injury to a PFLP-GC member and a civilian.

The PFLP-GC military spokesman added: These attacks on our positions by the Zionist enemy coincide with the marketing of the Mubarak-'Arafat plan, which is aimed at holding direct negotiations and normalizing relations between the imperialist Zionist enemy and the proponents of deviation and capitulation in the Palestinian arena. We in the PFLP-GC emphasize to our people's masses inside and outside the occupied homeland that we maintain the armed struggle in order to topple the capitulatory and suspect schemes against our national and pan-Arab cause and to secure all means of material, moral, and military support for the continuation of our people's tumultuous intifadah [uprising] until the liberation of the entire national Palestinian soil. It is a revolution until the liberation of land and man.

PLO Officials Meet Sweden's Andersson in Amman

JN2109070489 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Amman, AL-DUSTUR—Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson yesterday met in Amman with a Palestinian delegation comprising PLO Executive Committee Members 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Yahya, Muhammad Milhim, and Bishop Ilya Khuri.

Developments related to the Palestine question and the peace process in the Middle East were discussed during the meeting.

The Palestinian News Agency said the meeting came in continuation of the one held recently between Abdersson and Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine. The news agency said the meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere and was objective and positive.

'Arafat Chairs Fatah Central Committee Meeting

JN2009201889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 20 Sep (INA)—The Fatah Central Committee held a meeting here today under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine. Palestinian sources told the INA correspondent in Tunis that the meeting, which has not yet been concluded, will discuss the latest Palestinian developments, the results of the PLO leadership's international contacts on the Middle East situation, the avenues leading to an international peace conference, and the formulas for confronting the Zionist repressive measures against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

It should be noted that the Central Committee's meeting is the first of its kind since the fifth Fatah congress in Tunis last August.

PLO Team Holds Economic Talks With Waldegrave

JN1609080889 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 14 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] London—William Waldegrave, British minister of state for foreign affairs, met in London yesterday with a Palestinian economic delegation. The two sides discussed the Palestinian program for development in the West Bank and Gaza. The Palestinian delegation led by Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray'], head of the PLO Economic Department, asked Waldegrave to increase the British aid to the occupied territory and to finance development projects.

The Palestinian delegation also discussed, during the meetings with British officials in the Overseas Development Agency, the possibility of encouraging and marketing the West Bank and Gaza products in Britain. The Palestinian delegation also urged British officials to increase aid to the UN Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA.

Fatah's Khalid Al-Hasan on Current Situation

PM1809083689 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Sep 89 p 10

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan by Huda al-Husayni in London; date unspecified]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] What is the meaning of Palestinians' killing other Palestinians on the pretext of "cooperation" with Israel, since the killings are done in a brutal way, with hatchets, by burning the victims alive, or by dismembering them?

[Al-Hasan] First of all, the way the question is put implies incrimination, as though Palestinians were killing other Palestinians every day. Over the past 20 years of occupation the occupation has managed to recruit a number of agents. Now whoever continues to cooperate with the enemy will be killed.

[Al-Husayni] Is that a decision from the leadership?

[Al-Hasan] It is originally a decision from the leadership. Then the number of those killed started to rise, so we feared that such matters might have been conducted hastily. Then brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] issued a decision banning any killings before a trial is conducted or material evidence is available. I believe that since that decision was issued a week ago such acts have ceased. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] What is happening now between Jordan and Israel? Katyushas are falling on both sides, which are accusing and threatening one another. Do you see any war on the horizon, or do you see an attempt to expand the settlement circle?

[Al-Hasan] Jordan is included in the settlement. A war? Maybe. But maybe the objective is to divert attention to the katyusha war in order to eclipse the intifadah [uprising], to draw attention away from the possible risk of a war erupting between Israel and Jordan, or to divert people's attention from what is happening in Lebanon, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. In other words, it is designed to divert people's attention, to provide a justification for creating an atmosphere that would lead to aggression.

[Al-Husayni] And who is firing the katyushas on both sides?

[Al-Hasan] I believe that neither the Palestinians nor the Jordanians are doing so. This, because the weak do not embark on something that would allow the strong to come and occupy their territory.

[Al-Husayni] Foreign elements?

[Al-Hasan] Why not Israelis, or Israeli mercenaries? The objective behind the katyushas is to show that the danger lies there, not in Lebanon, and that war is approaching, so conditions in Lebanon must remain as they are.

[Al-Husayni] Has there been any Syrian-Palestinian rapprochement since 'Arafat's meeting with Syrian president in Libya and his meeting with 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam in Belgrade, which was was attended by the Syrian foreign Minister?

[Al-Hasan] There is no rapprochement of any kind. What happened at the nonaligned summit was not a meeting, nor was what happened in Libya a meeting; it was merely an accident. For protocol reasons 'Arafat sat next to President al-Asad, and perhaps they exchanged some words, but no talks were held.

[Al-Husayni] What happened at the private meeting held between 'Arafat and Khaddam in Belgrade?

[Al-Hasan] Nothing. Meaningless talk.

[Al-Husayni] Do you expect any rapprochement with Syria in the near future?

[Al-Hasan] We hope so. But that requires that Syria change its policy, priorities, and strategy; that it believe that it does not lead others, but cooperate with them in everything; that it believe that every side leads itself; that it believe that the pan-Arab leadership now has an institution called the summit institution; and that it realize that Syria is just Syria.

[Al-Husayni] In Belgrade 'Arafat said that 1990 will be international conference year, now that the European states, the Soviet Union, China, and the United States have initially agreed to it. When did the United States agree? Besides, every year you say that next year will be international conference year.

[Al-Hasan] This question should be addressed to Abu-'Ammar, because Abu-'Ammar expects many things, but "he was not correct on that one."

[Al-Husayni] So you rule out convening the international conference?

[Al-Hasan] Of course.

[Al-Husayni] When do you believe it will it take place?

[Al-Hasan] When there is international detente. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You demand an Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied after 1967 and say that you would accept elections after the Israeli forces withdrawal, on the grounds that Menahem Begin accepted these principles in the Camp David accords. You rejected those accords and boycotted Egypt for 10 years. What is the significance of your demand for a withdrawal now? Is it a tactic, as though Israel could be fooled by such means?

[Al-Hasan] It is not a tactic. It is designed to guarantee free elections. It is not a withdrawal from all the occupied territories, but a withdrawal from populated territories where the elections would be held. So it has to do with the elections, nothing else.

[Al-Husayni] Does it mean that after the elections are held the Israeli forces would return to the areas from which they withdrew?

[Al-Hasan] Yes, they would return, but then there will be a new situation in the country—new representatives before Israel. Then lengthy talks would start with a view

to reaching the transition period preceding the stage of the final withdrawal of the occupation.

[Al-Husayni] Israel wanted to negotiate the details of the elections with a Palestinian delegation from inside with a view to establishing an internal Palestinian leadership and abolishing the external leadership. You wanted a joint delegation from both inside and outside. The latest you have heard from the United States is that it has secured Israel's agreement to a joint delegation, provided it does not appear to the world that those outside are PLO elements or have any links with it or are nominated by it. Do you not regard this as procrastination?

[Al-Hasan] This is the first I have heard about these conditions. It does not concern me whether or not the delegation is from inside. What concerns me is that it represent the PLO in order to negotiate on the Palestinian people's behalf. As for those inside or outside, they all are patriotic.

[Al-Husayni] You raised the idea of a delegation comprising expellees.

[Al-Hasan] On the grounds that they are from inside and outside. But I do not favor such a rationale.

[Al-Husayni] What kind of rationale do you favor?

[Al-Hasan] That the delegation comprise anyone, but that it be capable of carrying out the election task, because the mere holding of the elections is a new stage that conflicts with (Israeli Prime Minister) Shamir's true intentions, since Shamir does not want elections.

[Al-Husayni] What does he want?

[Al-Hasan] Nothing. He wants to tell the United States: As you can see, I have presented a peace plan which proceeds from elections, but the Palestinians reject it. As far as we are concerned, elections are correct, not wrong.

[Al-Husayni] Do you mean some of you?

[Al-Hasan] No, all of us. Why some of us? We are for holding the elections, but after negotiations. As I said, all Palestinians are patriotic citizens, and we do not suspect anyone. The elections themselves will provide a new atmosphere, a new situation, which Israel does not want. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You are not satisfied with the results of the dialogue with Washington because it has been meaningless.

[Al-Hasan] So far.

[Al-Husayni] Nevertheless you are unable to stop the talks. It seems that the Americans have trapped you. They are imposing conditions on you: Do not make statements, do not move. That is, they prevent you from moving freely, without offering you any concessions or promises. How long will you continue a dialogue in which you can do nothing but submit?

[Al-Hasan] Here you are conducting an interview with me and I am making statements. If you want, I would vehemently criticize the United States, but you can only criticize at the right time and when criticism is justified. The Americans are not like that. The United States is a superpower and would not embark on something like that. How can it trap us?

[Al-Husayni] They have trapped you in their dialogue with you.

[Al-Hasan] How? Who says so?

[Al-Husayni] Can you now withdraw your recognition of Israel's right to exist, or of Resolution 242?

[Al-Hasan] We are not talking about that. Nevertheless, anything is possible. But the question now is, how can we best handle the elections? If we remain as we are now, it will mean that our dealings were wrong.

[Al-Husayni] What do you mean by "if we remain as we are now"?

[Al-Hasan] I mean our setting conditions, addressing questions, and demanding answers from the Americans and the Israelis. They are rivals and will not give the answers we want. We must question ourselves, set the answers, and embark on the elections. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You have told me that the dialogue with the Americans has "so far been meaningless." What do you still expect from it?

[Al-Hasan] Many things. Is the dialogue with the United States everything? When the dialogue moves from its present state of deadlock before the election, it will then accelerate and move rapidly toward the peace plan, toward the transitional period, the withdrawal, then the final withdrawal, and the international conference. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] It was noted during the Fatah congress that the grass roots did not agree with the leadership's policy, especially with regard to making concessions to Israel, and it was said that many of those nominated by 'Arafat lost.

[Al-Hasan] I would describe the congress as the congress of organizational opposition and political accord, not of political opposition. In its political program, Fatah adopted the Algiers resolutions, and that itself represents the utmost accord. The congress told 'Arafat: You are our leader on the basis of your credibility, and we do not want you to enter the elections.

[Al-Husayni] But no one had the courage to nominate himself against 'Arafat.

[Al-Hasan] It was not like that. It was because we have morals, and because that is what people wanted. When the details of the elections were discussed at the congress they told Abu-'Ammar: We do not agree with your work policy. This is why they did not accept him with regard

to many matters. Thus the congress was a very aware one: It respected 'Arafat with regard to some aspects and rewarded him for that. But regarding the things in which 'Arafat is mistaken, they told him: "You are wrong here," so they did not reward for that.

The congress agreed on the work policy and no one opposed it. There is a clear statement on that. The grass roots instructed the leadership to continue working to implement the Algiers resolutions. That position represents full support for the policy. The grass roots differed with the leadership on working methods. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You say that the Lebanese problem is not connected with the Palestinian problem. But when the Arabs asked the United States to put pressure on Israel to give a sign of its willingness to withdraw from South Lebanon, the U.S. response was that this was too much. Washington cannot put pressure on Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and then ask it to withdraw from South Lebanon at the same time. Would you agree to regain your rights at Lebanon's expense?

[Al-Hasan] What has the withdrawal from Lebanon to do with the withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip? Besides, Israel says that both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip belong to it. But until now it has not said that South Lebanon belongs to it. It has said: We will withdraw when Syria withdraws.

[Al-Husayni] Why does the United States not exert pressure?

[Al-Hasan] Because it does not want to. At this stage U.S. interests do not require that Israel withdraw from South Lebanon. The United States does so when its interests prompt it to do so.

[Al-Husayni] What is your opinion of the U.S. position on Lebanon regarding its failure to propose a solution because it could obstruct Washington's efforts regarding elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and its dialogue with the PLO?

[Al-Hasan] All that is happening in Lebanon is wrong. All the methods being used by everyone working on the Lebanese problem—including the Americans and Lebanese—are wrong.

[Al-Husayni] Could you explain that more clearly?

[Al-Hasan] What do you want me to explain? They [not further identified] want the United States to back them. Let us take the business of blowing up the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon and the marines. And still they want the United States to back them. Every day you see one Lebanese group with Damascus, another with the Iraqis, and another with the Egyptians or Jordanians. In other words, every group in Lebanon has linked itself to a certain Arab party. So how can the problem be resolved? Besides, there is something in France, something in the Vatican, and something in Germany and the United States. The entire issue is now based abroad. As I said, the Lebanese issue requires that the Lebanese people become Lebanese and sit down together and decide as Lebanese how to resolve their problems. [passage omitted]

PLO Official Comments on New 'Political Plan'

JN1809170089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Nicosia—PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad has praised the Iraqi victory against the Iranian aggression, and said: The victory has given us a great impetus to escalate our masses' intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Palestinian territories.

In an interview he granted today to the INA correspondent in Nicosia, 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad said that the Iraqi victory has restored to the Arabs their self-confidence to achieve victory, provided they have a wise political leadership.

He added that the Palestinian leadership is about to propose a new integrated political plan, which provides executive measures that will lead to convening the international conference for peace and which explicitly refers to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. He said: The plan will be an explanation to the peace program adopted by the Palestine National Council. Consequently, procedural measures to convene the international conference can be taken.

He asserted that the plan must in no way be interpreted as a new concession. He said: I am certain there will be no Palestinian concession in that respect. What we have given is the ultimate and it is what was possible considering the Palestinian, Arab, and international situation.

The PLO Executive Committee member pointed out that the PLO will continue its dialogue with the U.S. Administration in spite of the fact that it is like "plowing the sea." He pointed out that the Palestinian leadership considers the dialogue part of its political and information battle on the international level.

'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad went on to say that the heroic Palestinian intifadah has managed to shake the Zionist entity from within. He stressed that the PLO has not abandoned the option of using arms in the intifadah in any of its resolutions or programs. He added: Although we realize that the use of arms is a legitimate right approved by the international legitimacy, which differentiated between it and the so-called terrorism, we choose the appropriate method to confront the opponent.

He said: Probably one of the most striking geniuses of the intifadah is the fact that it managed with the stone to shake "the Israeli forces" and transform them into a form of police force to confront women and children without being able to settle things.

'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad asserted that the Palestinian leadership has decided to shoulder its responsibilities

toward the Palestinian workers who refuse to carry the magnetic cards and will extend the necessary financial support to them in order to continue to stand fast against the Zionist oppressive measures.

Organization Reportedly Planning Name Change

LD2109074489 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Palestinian sources said in Vienna yesterday that a draft Palestinian resolution has been prepared calling for replacement of the name PLO with Palestine. The draft resolution will be submitted to the 23d IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] general conference which will open in Vienna next Monday.

The sources said the resolution also calls for Palestine's participation in the technical committees of the IAEA Council of Governors, and for attending the council's meetings.

The sources said a Palestinian delegation, headed by Dr Nasr Jabr, the Palestinian permanent representative to the IAEA, will participate in the conference with the representatives of 122 countries.

Radio Clarifies Not Broadcasting 'Local' Calls

JN1609185689 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1711 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Undated announcement]

[Text] Brothers, our militant masses in the blazing homeland, we have received some remarks from our brother members of the popular committees inside our occupied territory drawing our attention to the fact that we do not broadcast many of the calls issued by these committees in many areas.

We must clarify that we in the Voice of the Palestinian Revolution—Voice of the PLO—always adhere to broadcasting central statements and calls issued by the Unified National Leadership of the intifadah [uprising]. We do not broadcast other local and partial statements issued by committees in this or that area; we leave these for the direct contact areas in which these statements were distributed. This is due to the large number of these statements.

Revolution until victory.

Algeria

Hamrouche Grants Interview After News Conference

LD1809174189 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Mouloud Hamrouche granted an exclusive interview to RFI [Radio France International] following his news conference [on 16 September]. Claire Arsenaud-ers asked him first whether he feared the first anniversary in a few weeks' time of the October riots:

[Begin Hamrouche recording] Personally, I am confident. It is true that a month or 2 months ago people were still asking themselves that question and many people were frightened and indeed they recalled that date, but I think that today conditions have come together for the citizens and the political parties to take part in the management of the country, in the management of social affairs, and I can see no reason for that to happen. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Presenter] The new Algerian head of government is preparing to adopt a series of measures, but he says people must not expect anything spectacular straight away as it will be necessary to take a bit of time:

[Begin Hamrouche recording] We are determined to give confidence back to the citizens and to bring back calm. Everything will also depend on the other partners, and from that moment, and it may take the necessary time—the necessary time to negotiate, the necessary time to explain, the necessary time to put the machinery in place [incomplete sentence as heard]. By giving the citizens liberty we are going to make them a bit more confident in their future, a bit more confident in their actions and in their work. I think that the root of the problem was there. [end recording]

[Presenter] Mouloud Hamrouche wants to be very open, including on points which have really been the hallmarks of the Algerian model during the first 25 years of independence. An example is foreign investments and on this, as you are going to see, he announced a complete change of attitude:

[Begin recording] [Hamrouche] First, one must look anew at the matter, change one's vision completely and perhaps introduce some flexibility and differentiate of course according to the activity in question. We envisage having several priorities at the same time and one can even, I think, envisage having certain investments which could be foreign investments in their totality: For example, (I can cite) tourism which could indeed be (?profitable) for foreigners who might invest in the country.

[Arsenaud-Lers] You are not setting limits to these investments in companies? It is no longer a matter of 51-49 percent split as was the case up until now?

[Hamrouche] In certain types of industrial and economic activity it is perhaps prejudicial for the country to have a foreign partner who possesses a bit more than 30 or 40 or 50 percent, whereas in other activities, even if he has 85 percent or 100 percent, this does not put the country's economic independence in danger or the national economy in danger. [end recording]

National Liberation Front Congress Opens 19 Sep

LD1909144189 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] [Announcer] The national forum of senior personnel of the FLN [National Liberation Front] opened this morning at the Palace of Nations. The forum was opened by Abdelhamid Mehri, secretary general of the FLN Central Committee. Taking part in the meeting are 400 members and leaders of the various revolution national councils and of the Revolution council since 1965, and members of the various Central Committees formed since the Algiers congress. On the line now is the radio mission:

[Unidentified reporter] Thank you, Mohamed. As you have said the participants in the forum are about 400 leading officials of the FLN, members of the National Council of the Revolution, the Revolution Council, and various bodies of the FLN Central Committee. Not attending the forum are those who voluntarily opted to leave the ranks of the front and to form independent political organizations or who have made statements hostile to the front.

The proceedings began after a moment of silence in memory of the souls of the martyrs of the revolution and the homeland. The forum is being supervised by Abdelhamid Mehri, general secretary of the FLN Central Committee, and by Rabih Betat, Ammar Ben Ouda, and Ahmed Bouchaib, the latter three were members of the original group of 22 which prepared and started the revolution of November 1954.

Abdelhamid Mehri addressed the participants for half an hour, and at the beginning of his speech that he defined the course and the general framework within which this forum is being held. He said:

[Begin Mehri recording] The invitation from the Central Committee to attend this forum does not at all mean that we are trying to win credibility for any era or for any policy. Neither does it mean that we are trying to conceal the serious and profound problems being experienced by Algerian society. On the contrary, we would like this forum to be one of responsible openness [musaraha] about our experience of the front as we have all at one time or another taken a share of the responsibility, whether it was small or large. However, the past quarter century, plus the liberation war, has been the responsibility of the front. [end recording]

After presenting a critical analysis of the past decades from the political and economical aspects, Mehri explained the tasks undertaken by the FLN regarding its basic and necessary role in maintaining political balance

within society. However, Mehri pointed out the need for changes in the party, including full democracy within its structures in order to make it a modern political organization while maintaining its historical roots, and consolidating its popular image. All of this comes within the framework of political and party multiplicity. The FLN should provide and maintain the necessary climate for this because, Mehri says, its role as a front is to lay down the general framework with its national constants and to offer competition in the interest of the people. The FLN is capable of doing that. He added that all issues are on the table for debate in total freedom, without any self-imposed obligation of reaching unanimity. This is, in fact, what has happened because four people have spoken in the general debate which is still going on. The four who intervened presented different analyses of Algeria's march under the leadership of the FLN with its positive and negative aspects.

These interventions and others which will take place in the afternoon will be reported in detail in our later news bulletins.

Mehri Addresses FLN Conference

LD2009093989 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Algiers, 20 Sep 89 (APS)—The national conference of the leading FLN [National Liberation Front] cadres opened Tuesday morning at the Palace of Nations with the attendance of more than 400 persons who have shouldered various partisan, governmental, or military responsibilities. [passage omitted]

APS has learned that Saleh Boubnieder, Ali Kefi, Tahar Boudrbala, and Abdelmajid Kehlerras decided to boycott this conference and declared their stance towards it in a statement to the press. [passage omitted]

The evening session of the conference was highlighted by several addresses by participants.

In his reply to questions from other speakers, Mr Abdelhamid Mehri stressed that this conference grew out of demands for a multiparty system and the dialogues of FLN cadres.

He stressed the necessity of the FLN opening itself up to the youth, pointing out that the FLN in the past practiced a policy of benign neglect. He said the FLN must change this course; it must lift all guardianship imposed on the history of the revolution, lift the fictitious barriers between the generations of the revolution, and permit them to erase the current impression that the Front's leaders fought among themselves for power and financial interests.

In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that if true democracy is practiced at all levels, the Front will be pure and prominent.

The evening session ended and meetings will resume this morning.

News Agency Comments on Government Program

LD1609150489 Algiers APS in English 1400 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, 16/9/89 (APS)—The Hamrouche government will certainly deal with the present day preoccupations with positive concern about the result and in order to succeed, he must take an objective position in the examination of serious questions.

The outline of the program presented to the press by the head of government is largely acceptable as it answers a number of immediate preocupations the most important of which are the ones announcing a concrete development of the democratization apparatus.

The government will also have to improve the financial and monetary management and lessen the constraints imposed on the production and investment aparatus.

The reforms of democratization of the life of the country have not yet been implemented and it is known that on this point the head government wants to implement them soon as the country needs them badly. The spirit and the letter of the Constitution have not yet entered the minds of officials who turn in on themselves preventing all initiatives to be materialized.

Moreover, it is known that the need of information of citizens has now reached the same importance of other needs. In addition, the (?nomination) of Mouloud Hamrouche coincides with the legalization of political parties which will certainly assess all his initiatives and actions. In this context, the national information is expected to have another form. A strong democracy can not survive with an ill and tied up information system.

The second concern of Hamrouche would consist in the means of mobilize all the resources of the country and realize the understanding of producers, merchants and consumers. We have a national public industry which has been constantly decreasing since 1984. This industry must be improved in order to meet all the needs of the national market.

Unfortunately, the present management has had negative efforts on the national economy.

Today, words alone are not enough. The public should know that the formation of a strong domestic market, with only Algeria's possibilities is not possible. All these reforms should enter in a more global frame of "grand industrial policy." This will ensure employment, satisfaction of the different needs, and opens the way to exportation of good products and the transfer of know-how. It will mainly mobilise private capitals sleeping in Algeria.

For, first of all we should make no difference between public sector and private sector and all should get benefit of the same assets because effects will benefit to the whole community.

We know today the government could not bring down completely unemployment in this case the private sector should take its responsibility in this context.

The state is on the eve of allowing the formation of joint companies. We think in this matter that there can not be a discrimination towards the private sector. And any law hindering the capacity of action of the private sector would be purely anti-constitutional. We should end the isolationism of Algeria.

Mouloud Hamrouche must thus go to the People's National Assembly to present his action in order to reach through measures of firmness, necessary guarantees for the future.

The deputies have had during the last ten months, time to appreciate a parliamentary debate. The members of the parliament will thus see that the language of figures say a lot for those who want to understand the present difficulties and the concerns of tomorrow. People should no longer try to create through illusory statements on joint companies, for instance, an emotivity which has up till now hindered the economic development of the country. There are laws which protect sovereignty but one must get rid of protectionist obstacles.

So, the problem is in investment which creates employment and production and when money is rare one must be associated with foreign capitals and create a number of attracting facilities for all foreign partners.

RCD Issues Outline of 'Future Program'

LD1909212889 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Rally for Culture and Democracy [RCD], a previously legalized party, has drawn up the main outline of its future program. In a document issued yesterday, the RCD states in particular its concept of economic revival: removing bureaucratic constraints in the state sector and rechanneling most of the investments in the private sector into activities which really produce wealth. The RCD says this portion of national private capital has so far been invested in [words indistinct] products of mediocre quality, and escapes all taxation. Finally, in view of the RCD, national solidarity must work to initiate this economic revival within the shortest possible time. National solidarity cannot prevail, adds the communique, unless the political leaders and the intellectual elite speak the plain truth and bring public opinion in on national differences between political officials responsible for the management of social order.

Egypt

Mubarak, 'Arafat To Meet in 'Next Few Days'

NC2009142489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian sources in Cairo have said that President Husni Mubarak is expected to meet with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat in the next few days.

The Palestinian sources said that this will be the third meeting in 10 days. It comes as part of the coordination and consultations between the Egyptian and Palestinian leaders and will take place on the eve of President Mubarak's visit to Paris, New York, and Washington, where he will be holding a number of meetings with a large number of world leaders who are concerned with the Middle East situation.

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo

NC2109073389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo this morning to hold important political talks to coordinate and consult with Egypt on recent developments in the Palestinian issue, particularly President Mubarak's 10-point plan.

These talks will supplement those held between President Mubarak and 'Arafat last Saturday, as well as those held between President Mubarak and Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Cairo last Monday.

The Palestinian president was received at the airport by Sa'id Kamal, PLO representative in Cairo, and Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Fatah representative in Cairo.

Mubarak Speaks to Israeli Reporters on 'Future'

JN2009150689 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1040 GMT 20 Sep 89

[From the "Midday Events" feature]

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak says that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has informed him that he has no intention of waging war against Israel, that the 10-points seek to build confidence among the parties, and that there will be no peace in the region without the participation of the Palestinians from outside.

President Mubarak was speaking at a meeting with Israeli journalists in Cairo this morning. Among them was our colleague Yitzhaq Halevi, who provided us with the text of President Mubarak's interview with Radio Israel in Arabic.

[Halevi] At the beginning of his statements to Radio Israel and Arab affairs editors in the Israeli media, President Mubarak spoke about his ideas on the future following his meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin here in Cairo the day before yesterday.

[Begin recording] [Mubarak] My talks with Mr Rabin consisted of an exchange of views on Mr Shamir's initiative. We spoke about the 10 points, which I do not view as an initiative. You were afraid that the submission of our initiative would terminate your initiative. We are ready to say and adopt anything that serves peace.

The important thing is that the 10 points are clarifications to build the other party's confidence, to have it come and hold talks. We spoke with Mr Rabin. There is agreement on many points. There is also understanding. He understands our viewpoint, and I understand his. We agreed that he will go back to the government and Mr Shamir so that they may discuss all the points which we have discussed with respect to the operation. What scenario do we want? Mr Shamir's initiative [word indistinct] elections. No one objects to elections on principle. This is a democratic method. However, [word indistinct] what purpose should these elections serve? The many points I have mentioned in my initiative are for clarification purposes. They are to build confidence because you yourselves are skeptical about the PLO and the PLO is also skeptical about you. Each side does not trust the other. We want to shatter this mistrust. We said: The initiative needs to be clarified. We told the Israeli side to reply to these clarifications so that we may be able [words indistinct] in general [preceding words in English]. Let the two delegations sit down to hold a dialogue. I believe that such a dialogue will place obligations on neither party. It will be the same thing as my dialogue with Mr Rabin, or with Mr Peres. Such a dialogue is to reach understanding, to meet on two points, to disagree on one point. We will think about this point once again, and perhaps a third approach. This is because the two of us are convinced about the peace process. Then we must think in a logical way about attaining peace, or to reach safe shores. Who does not want to reach safe shores?

How many years have you been at war?

[Unidentified Israeli journalist] Two years, of course.

[Mubarak] Two years only. You have been waging war for the past 48 years. Have you forgotten, or what?

[Unidentified journalist] [Words indistinct]

[Mubarak] It does not matter. I say 40 years and these 40 years are like 400 years and not just 100 years. You have not enjoyed peace for these 40 years. You do not know and cannot appreciate what peace means. When a country is free form blows, shellings, fighting, killings, and bombs it feels that it is secure [preceding word in English]. How would it be if the entire state feels it is living in peace, security, freedom of movement? How would you feel if you could go out and travel to any neighboring Arab country and have friends there? How many years have we fought each other? Several years. After this, we met and there is now peace. The Israeli citizen comes here as a tourist. Do the people here beat him?

[Unidentified journalist] No.

[Mubarak] Is he badly treated?

[Unidentified journalist] They welcome him.

[Mubarak] On the contrary, not over my dead body. We want to live together as human beings in amity and brotherhood instead of continuing to purchase bullets—from which others profit—or killing one another, creating orphans, and killing children. Let us escape from pain and sorrow and stop spending our money on sophisticated weapons to carry out more killings. Why all this? We say come and let us hold a dialogue. Israel is a state and has a territory. The Palestinians still have no haven. Come and sit with us.

You suggest sitting down with the West Bankers only. I tell you it is not possible. For a long time I have said it is useless. I still say, you people, please understand. We are not doing anything which helps this or that side against the other. We want peace. It is my greatest wish that one could blink an eye and find the whole region full of peace. This is something no one can imagine. Peace is something great, especially for those who have not tried it. You are editors and need to come and go freely. You have a friend you need to call up. You cannot travel to any Arab country. The peace process eases your mind. The complications would be eliminated. One would not have this constant worry that this person wants to kill us; the other wants to massacre us; or that when Iraq ends its war, it will come and fight against us. Why do we constantly instill fear in each other? All these rumors were spread that they are going to fight you, and there was absolutely nothing to it. Iraq does not want to fight you, nor any one else. I heard it from the Iraqi president himself. He told me frankly: I have no intention of fighting Israel.

[Unidentified journalist] Are those Saddam Husayn's words?

[Mubarak] Something to that effect: When and how should I [Saddam Husayn] fight Israel? But if Egypt were to fight Israel....[changes thought] So you had better not not start a war with us [laughter]—or if Jordan, a confrontation state, were to fight Israel [incomplete sentence as heard].

[Unidentified journalist] I asked whether you approved of 'Arafat's dialogue.

[Mubarak] Yes I approve. You are the ones who are complicating matters. I am speaking very frankly.

[Unidentified journalist] In practice, you have a government in Israel the majority of which does not agree to the principle of land for peace.

[Mubarak] The [words indistinct] does not agree?

[Unidentified journalist] The Likud is Shamir. And the Likud party; Shamir is the prime minister. The Likud party backing him says frankly—and said it last night—we do not approve of the principle of land for peace. Then how is the process going to move forward?

[Mubarak] If we give peace what do we get in return? We have to get something in return to give you peace.

[Unidentified journalist] Peace for peace.

[Mubarak] What is this peace for peace?

[Unidentified journalist] This is what he says, not what I say.

[Mubarak] He needs someone to ask him: do you want peace?

[Unidentified journalist] How do we move the process?

[Mubarak] You, the Israeli people, what do you do? Argue with your government. You have a parliament and everything you need. Argue logically. The present situation is not healthy. I am a president, but I cannot impose something on the people that they do not agree with. If you had a dictatorial regime, do you have a dictatorial regime? The answer is no. Why do you then ask me this question? The logic behind this is that I cannot impose anything on the people if the people do not approve of it. Even if I disagree with the deputies and I believe it is in the general interest, I will still present it to the people. This is a fateful issue. It is not a game. We are saving lives and the economy. We want to remove the people from the state of fear and terror they are living in. We want to move them beyond that to peace. We are being tossed around in very high seas. We must get out of this situation. We should live a bit and breathe some fresh air after 40 years. We need to live as human beings. We need to feel that we are not sitting here and worrying about someone stabbing me, another shooting at me, and a third going to cut my head open. We need to feel that we are human beings living like the rest of the world. Is this of value or not? [Words indistinct] if you want the state of war to continue, it will become more complicated in the future. Today, you find help here and there, but in the future this cannot be guaranteed. God says, do your duty and rely on God.

[Unidentified journalist] [Question indistinct]

[Mubarak] The delegation, the delegation. What is this clamor about the delegation? I do not know what is so complicated about the Palestinian delegation. You are living in Israel and you have the people of the West Bank and Gaza. Can you hold a dialogue with the people of the West Bank and Gaza and disregard the people outside?

[Unidentified journalist] (?Never).

[Mubarak] I challe[illegible] you. I am not inciting the people. I say this to you because I know this and I have listened to officials. There is no way.

[Unidentified journalist] [Words indistinct] representatives of the West Bank and Gaza.

[Mubarak] With all respect for all these opinions, you are like people banging their heads against the wall. The people outside can affect the people inside. The people inside the territories can do nothing without a green light [preceding two words in English] from the people outside. Do you understand this or not? So let us have a break. I want peace and I want to live. Let us bring representatives from outside—two or three. We will agree on this. Let us select them from the deportees, those who have an American or other passport, or from the Palestinians outside. Do not be afraid of this or that person. What can 2 of 10 make? Why do you shake when we say Palestinians from outside? Will they kill you?

[Unidentified journalist] Will they be selected from the Palestine National Council [PNC], for example?

[Mubarak] Forget about the PNC and the like. They are Palestinians who want to live in their homeland. Do you think that they do not want to live or not have land? People want to feel that there is peace. When the people outside feel that there is peace they will come to visit you in Israel. They will feel that there is peace.

[Unidentified journalist] [Question indistinct]

[Mubarak] You want to complicate things. First sit and hold a dialogue, and start negotiating later. Who will return? Tell me about this, I want to discuss it with you.

[Unidentified journalist] A million Palestinian refugees.

[Mubarak] Where?

[Unidentified journalist] [10-second break in reception]

[Muarak] A Palestinian residing in Egypt is not a refugee. He was called a refugee in the past. If the issue is resolved and the Palestinians are given land there, the Palestinians in Egypt will not go there. What would they do there? Here they have their factories, their homes, and their lives. Their sons have grown up here for the past 40 years [words indistinct]. There are people in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates [UAE], and Qatar. [Words indistinct] those in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, and everywhere are living there and have put down roots there. Will they leave?

[Unidentified journalist] They will also return.

[Mubarak] When you say this, it looks as if you want them to return. Leave them alone. If you ask me not to return, I will say to you I will return. It is human nature to be stubborn. If you ask me not to enter here, I will return. Give people freedom.

[Unidentifed journalist] Your excellency, despite the Egyptian efforts (?to achieve peace), Egypt has been exposed to severe [word indistinct] and accusation of some Palestinian organizations that Egypt is implementing a [word indistinct] Israeli scheme. This worries the Israeli people who say that it is useless to enter negotiations with 'Arafat since he is not going to represent all the Palestinian people.

[Mubarak] [Words indistinct] when somebody in Israel calls for peace, do all the institutions there agree on peace? [Word indistinct] is not your country a democratic country? When the prime minister adopts a position, does everybody agree on that position? If there is a democracy, not everybody will agree on the stand. However, there is a majority. If there is a dictatorship,

everybody will be forced to agree on a stand. Would anybody open his mouth? Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has the support of the majority, but he also has an opposition in his organization. If you believe that everybody agrees, then you are mistaken.

[Unidentified journalist] What is your excellency's response to the onslaughts.... [question incomplete] [end recording]

Further on Mubarak's Statements

NC2009154589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has appealed to Israeli public opinion to work toward holding a dialogue with the Palestinians in order to find a solution to the Palestinian issue, and consequently to attain a comprehensive settlement and ensure stability in the region.

President Mubarak said the Palestinians inside the occupied territories will not move along the road toward a solution unless the Palestinians outside the territories do so. President Mubarak spoke this morning to a large Israeli media delegation representing radio, television, and the press.

At the beginning of the interview, President Mubarak pointed out that the 10 points he presented are not an initiative, but are meant to help bring about an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. He noted that there is agreement on some of the points and disagreement on others.

In his interview with the Israeli media delegation, which accompanied Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on his recent visit to Cairo, President Mubarak stressed that in his dealings with Israel he has to deal with the Israeli Government and people, and not with the Likud or the Labor Party. He added: Now is the time to move forward, and there must be Palestinians from outside the occupied territories among the Palestinian delegation.

The president noted in his interview that when he visited Cairo Rabin brought him an verbal message from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. President Mubarak added that peace is a precious thing that is worth making sacrifices for. He stressed that Israel has not yet tasted peace, since it has been living in a continuous state of war for more than 40 years. Addressing the Israeli people, President Mubarak said: Once you really taste peace, you will do anything to have it. He added that Israel must try to offer the Palestinians in the occupied territories some hope and give them their land, so that they may give Israel peace in return. He stressed that no land can survive without peace, and logic and reason confirm this. The president pointed out that the PLO has offered a great deal and is ready for a dialogue to achieve peace.

Mubarak added: "The Arab demands are clear. They revolve around the principle of land in exchange for peace and a halt to the settlement activities in the occupied territories."

Regarding the Camp David agreement, President Mubarak said: Let no one be in the dark about this. Camp David is made up of two documents. The first includes principles for resolving the Egyptian-Israeli dispute, while the second is a framework for resolving the Palestinian issue. I "cannot impose this second document" on the Palestinians. I have no right to impose a document on them that we concluded with the Americans, he declared.

In his meeting with the Israeli media delegation, President Mubarak stressed that Egypt has a certain standing in the area and is not a small country. He said that when Egypt tells Israel something about the Palestinian people and the PLO it is confident that the PLO fully agrees with what it says.

Regarding a possible meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, President Mubarak said that he does not want to shock public opinion in the two countries with a meeting with the Israeli prime minister that would bring no tangible results. However, when he is sure that such a meeting would lead to results that would be in the interests of the peoples of both countries he will then bring such a meeting about. President Mubarak also said that Jordan is a country concerned with the issue and no one can forget its role.

On relations between Egypt and Israel, and the fact that Egyptians do not travel to Israel as tourists, the president said: The Egyptian citizen constantly hears about the killings and bloodshed in Israel and the occupied territories. No tourist would go in this atmosphere.

As for trade between the two countries, the president asked: What does Israel have for us to buy? We have everything and you can buy a great many things from us here. He stressed that Egypt is living in a democratic environment and that no one can impose anything on the Egyptian people without their desire or approval.

Regarding military cooperation with the Arab countries, President Mubarak stressed that no one can prevent this cooperation as long as it is not directed toward aggression.

President Mubarak was asked about recent reports that an explosion had taken place in a missile factory in Iraq, that Egypt is collaborating with Iraq to manufacture surface-to-surface missiles, and that a large number of those injured in the explosion were taken to the Armed Forces hospital in al-Ma'adi for treatment. President Mubarak stressed that this did not happen at all and denied the reports disseminated by some quarters.

President Mubarak said: Israel cannot play the role of referee, demanding one thing and banning something else. The Israelis cannot talk about what is going on in the Arab world while they are making missiles such as

the recently launched Jericho missile, "unless they want to terrify those around them without anyone threatening them." He added: We are doing what we believe is reasonable to restore life to normal in all the countries of the region. He stressed that fighting will not decide the issue and that all problems will be settled at the negotiating table. The problem between Egypt and Israel was decided in this way, he said, when the late leader Anwar al-Sadat took the plane and flew to Israel, thus destroying the psychological barrier between the two peoples.

President Mubarak stressed that there is no peace initiative in the region except al-Sadat's and that there is no initiative that can rise to the level of al-Sadat's.

These interviews by President Mubarak form part of Cairo's current intensive efforts to bring about a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue to resolve the Palestinian issue.

President Mubarak's meeting with the Israeli media delegation was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Dr Mamduh al- Biltaji, chairman of the public information authority.

'Abd-al-Majid on Response to Mubarak Plan

PM2009111089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Sep 89 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: "Everyone, Except Shamir, Supports Mubarak Plan"']

[Excerpts] Tunis, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has announced that the responses which Egypt has received to President Husni Mubarak's plan for the occupied territory, the aim of which is to initiate a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue leading to the desired peaceful solution, are all good and positive, except for Yitzhaq Shamir's rejective position. But in Israel there are other views which support the initiative.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said: "The support that we have felt encourages us to continue our endeavors and proves that Egypt's position has revived matters and that Egypt is following the right path," referring to reports by news agencies that the United States supports Egypt's position. [passage omitted]

Regarding the Palestinian position he said that he invited President 'Arafat to a special luncheon yesterday, and added: As you know, we maintain constants with the PLO and appreciate its stances in advancing the peace process, since they are realistic and practical stances aimed at achieving a peaceful solution that will restore all the Palestinian people's rights on their own homeland.

Asked about the effects of the Iranian interferences in Arab affairs—a question raised at sessions of the Arab League Council now being convened in Tunis—he said: These problem exist, but for our part, we have a clear stance toward Iran.

He added: We believe that Iraq has done all it can to turn the cease-fire into a permanent peace with Iran. By rebuilding the areas destroyed during the war, such as Basra and Al-Faw, Iraq has proved that it wants peace. This, because if Iraq's intentions were otherwise, it would not have started to rebuild the destroyed areas. It is also ready for a second round of war should that be imposed on it. But the problem is that Iran has not responded to that position. Of course that prompts us to urge Iran to adopt a clear position on a permanent peace. Iran feels that the Arab states are backing Iraq's demands. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Briefs Arab, EC Envoys on Plan

NC2009172489 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a meeting today with the Arab ambassadors in Cairo.

In a statement after the meeting, al-Amin 'Abd-al-Latif, Sudan's ambassador and doyen of the diplomatic corps in Cairo, said Dr 'Abd- al-Majid explained in full the 10 points Egypt has submitted to Israel, noting that they are questions concerning the elections in the occupied Arab territories. He added that Dr 'Abd-al-Majid had also briefed them on the results of President Mubarak's talks with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, during which Israel agreed to the principle of holding a dialogue with the Palestinians in Cairo. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that President Mubarak will meet with both Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party, and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in New York.

The Sudanese ambassador added that Dr 'Abd-al-Majid had stated that he will also meet with the U.S. Secretary of State and the Israeli foreign minister in New York. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid asked the Arab ambassadors to relay the results of today's talks to their foreign ministers, in preparation for the meeting that the Arab foreign ministers will hold in New York. Dr 'Abd-al-Majid pointed out that the Egyptian efforts to promote the peace process are being exerted in coordination with the PLO and the Arab leaders. Egypt is not working alone on this matter, he stated; it is after all an Arab issue. He stressed that the selection of members of the Palestinian delegation to an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue is the absolute right of the PLO.

In addition, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid met with the EC ambassadors in Cairo and briefed them on the results of the contacts and efforts that Egypt has undertaken recently in a bid to contribute to the search for a just solution to the Palestinian issue. Dr 'Abd-al- Majid stressed that Egypt hopes the EC will play an effective role in the ongoing efforts to find a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

PRC's Qian Meets Mubarak, Delivers Message

NC1909102089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0838 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today received a written message from PRC President Yang Shangkun. PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen delivered the message during a meeting with President Mubarak today.

Following the meeting, Qian said that President Mubarak extended an invitation to the PRC president to visit Egypt this year. He described his talks with President Mubarak as extremely good and said that he briefed President Mubarak on the political and economic situation in the PRC. He noted that the situation in the PRC is now stable. He said that President Mubarak expressed his appreciation of the stabilized situation in the PRC. He pointed out that he conveyed greetings from the PRC leadership to President Mubarak. He then said that President Mubarak briefed him on the latest developments in the Middle East. He expressed the PRC Government's appreciation of the efforts being made by the Egyptian Government and president to stimulate the peace process in the region. He noted that the meeting indicated that both countries' views and stands on this issue are identical.

Meets People's Assembly Speaker

NC1909180089 Cairo MENA in English 1252 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, Sep 19-(MENA)—People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at Al-Mahjub today received Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Quichen who is currently visiting here. The meeting dealt with major international issues including the Middle East, the Palestinian cause, and the situation in Lebanon. Talks also covered ways of boosting bilateral relations, with emphasis on parliamentary domains.

Meets Consultative Council Speaker

NC1909194489 Cairo MENA in English 1416 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, Sep 19 (MENA)—Speaker of the Consultative Council Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi today received the visiting Chinese foreign minister Qian Qichen and his accompanying delegation. Dr Hilmi briefed the delegation on the progress of the parliamentary system in Egypt and efforts exerted by Egypt to achieve development. The meeting also dealt with ways of boosting relations between Egypt and China with stress on parliamentary ties.

Holds News Conference

NC2009202489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1840 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has stressed that the 10 points submitted by President Husni Mubarak constitute a strong impetus for dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians. He said: I have heard from President Mubarak that these 10 points are queries addressed to Israel in order to bring about this dialogue.

Speaking at a news conference held at the Chinese Embassy in Cairo this evening, Qian said that China approves the dialogue among all the parties in this area, including that between the United States and the Palestinians, that between the Palestinians and Israel, and those among the other concerned parties. He expressed his belief that a real solution to the Middle East problem must be achieved within the framework of an international conference, with the participation of the UN Security Council's permanent members and all the regional parties concerned.

The Chinese foreign minister said that his visit to Cairo comes at a time when the situation in the Middle East is witnessing positive changes. The efforts to find a political solution for the Middle East problem have turned into a major current affecting the situation, he declared. We welcome the development of this current, he added. He said that he had reiterated to the Egyptian leadership that the Chinese Government has always supported the Palestinian people's just causes, and that it has always called for the resolution of the Middle East problem through peaceful means and urged that none of the parties should resort to force.

He called on the Israeli authorities to halt all acts of repression against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and to withdraw from the territories it has occupied. He added that his country believes that the Palestinian people's legitimate rights should be restored, that all the countries in the region should enjoy the right to independence and existence, and that they should coexist in an atmosphere of peace and accord. He added that the Chinese Government supports the holding of a dialogue among all the concerned parties in the forms they believe are suitable.

He praised the traditional relations betwen Egypt and China, which are based on respect, trust, and friendship. He said that he had held talks during this visit with President Husni Mubarak; Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub; Consultative Council Speaker Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture; and Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. He added that the talks involved an exhaustive exchange of views on the international situation, the Middle East problem, and bilateral relations, stressing the identity of the two countries' views on many of these issues.

He described his visit as a successful one and said that the Chinese president will pay a friendly visit to Egypt before the end of this year. He said that there are immense possibilities for bolstering cooperation between Egypt and China; we will work to strengthen and advance it, he stated.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the Chinese foreign minister voiced his country's grave concern over the developments there. However, he said he was glad that the Arab tripartite committee had begun its activities and efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis. He declared that his country supports this kind of mediation and believes that an Arab-brokered solution is much better than any other. He asserted that any solution should respect Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity.

Responding to a question about the relations between Saudi Arabia and his country, the Chinese foreign minister said they are developing all the time. He added that offices for trade representatives were recently opened in both countries. He noted that these popular institutions would contribute toward increasing trade and promoting the relations between the two countries. He expressed optimism over the development of these relations.

Asked to comment on the situation between Iran and Iraq, the Chinese foreign minister pointed out that the fighting came to a halt in accordance with Security Council Resolution 598, but a lasting peace has not yet been established between the two countries. He added: We urge the two sides to attain peace through negotiations and conclude an agreement based on Resolution 598. Qian asserted that his country has often expressed its stand on the issue, adding that he will soon visit Iran to explain this stand to the Iranian Government.

Touching on the situation in the PRC, the Chinese foreign minister emphasized that his country is not afraid of any sanctions or pressures. He added that the decision to impose sanctions on his country was made by Western countries and was based on groundless, distorted information. He declared that the situation in China is developing toward stability, noting that the government does not allow acts of violence in the country and it will take the necessary measures to quell such acts.

Asked about the changes in the Soviet Union and their effect on the region, the Chinese foreign minister said that his country's foreign policy is peaceful and independent and has not changed. He added that this policy is based on openness toward the outside world and on introducing reforms inside the country in accordance with Chinese realities.

Paper Says Shamir's 'Delusions' Shatter Optimism

NC2109092989 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0627 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—[Passage omitted] Under the headline "Shamir's Delusions Obstruct Peace Endeavors," AL-AKHBAR writes that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir refuses to see logic or accept any fair proposals to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and end the tension, disturbances, and hostility that have persisted for more than 40 years. This, the paper says, obstructs most efforts to develop the region and improve the well-being of its peoples.

The paper adds that Shamir's insistence on his own delusions, which lead him to believe that he is capable of imposing peace by force while maintaining his control over the occupied Palestinian territories, imply that he still has the mentality of an 18th or 19th century politician. Any reasonable person need not be a professional politician to realize that the false hope to which the Israeli prime minister clings is unviable both now and in the future, because the Palestinian people will continue to raise the banner of struggle until they regain their land and freedom.

The paper notes that the Likud leader and his extremist and inflexible followers have shattered the slight optimism that was emerging in the wake of the Israeli defense minister's visit to Cairo.

Romanian National Assembly Delegation Arrives

NC2009142789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1101 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Nicolae Giosan, chairman of Romania's Grand National Assembly, and his accompanying delegation, arrived in Cairo at noon today for a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his visit, Giosan will hold talks with Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, People's Assembly speaker; Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, Consultative Council speaker; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade.

Giosan said his visit at the invitation of Dr al-Mahjub and that it denotes the strong relations between the governments and peoples of both countries as well as the special friendship between Presidents Husni Mubarak and Nicolae Ceausescu.

Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, who met the Romanian guest at the airport, said that the visit repays a People's Assembly delegation visit to Romania last year. He noted that he will hold talks with the visiting delegation in the context of the strong relations between Egypt and Romania.

Mubarak Receives Romanian Delegation

NC2109095589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0850 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received a verbal message from Romanian President Nicholae Ceausescu during his meeting today with the Romanian parliamentary delegation.

This was stated by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, who added that the president briefed the delegation members on recent developments in the international situation and on Egypt's role in various issues, particularly the Middle East problem.

The chairman of the Romanian National Assembly expressed satisfaction over the meeting with President Mubarak. He said the meeting discussed prospects for bilateral cooperation.

Information Minister on Israeli Satellites

NC2009200089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1459 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)—Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stressed the importance of the upcoming summit of Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] leaders in Sanaa next week. He noted that officials and experts from the four ACC member states have prepared several working papers that will serve as a basis for cooperation between the four countries in the economic, agricultural, industrial, and other spheres.

In an interview with the Egyptian magazine AL-MUSAWWAR to be published on Friday, al-Sharif pointed out that a meeting of the leaders of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and the Yemen Arab Republic is bound to give momentum to work within the ACC institutions and put them on the right track in accordance with sound rules compatible with the capabilities of each member country. [passage omitted]

Asked about the implications of Israel's having launched its first satellite a year ago and its preparations to launch its second within the next 2 months, al-Sharif said this matter does not cause us any worry or concern. For some time now, he stated, we have been preparing ourselves to fortify our society by expandng and diversifying our media channels. An example of this, he said, is the establishment of a local television station in the Canal Zone.

In this respect, the information minister stressed that there is absolutely no chance that Egypt will come under the influence of any outside media. Noting the superiority and awareness of the Egyptian media, al-Sharif said the Egyptians no longer feel strangers in their own land and pointed out that the Egyptian media enjoy supremacy throughout the country. He said there is no room for comparison and any cultural competition in this respect is unacceptable. He noted that in terms of technique and quality, Egyptian television stands out in the entire Middle East.

He pointed out that Israel's first satellite was experimental and had no influence. He added that Egypt had protested to the specialized international agencies when it realized that this satellite would deviate from its designated orbit, and thus the satellite's course was reset so that it stayed within its prescribed orbit. He noted that the second Israeli satellite will follow the same orbit as the first and will be used to provide a second channel for Israeli television.

Al-Sharif stated that it is not a question of an invasion or a technological leap. Israel resorted to the satellite to cover its territory using various channels, while Egypt preferred the "microwave"system of ground networks because it is more durable and less costly, he added.

Al-Sharif called for the optimum use to be made of Arabsat. He noted that the presumed lifespan of the first generation of satellites of this type expired 5 years ago without its having been fully used, because 40 percent of the facilities allocated to Egypt had been inoperational during that period.

In this respect, the information minister underlined the need for studies concerning the second generation of Arabsat to be discussed immediately by the Arab ministers of information and communications, so that everyone will be working in accordance with a long-term future strategy, not one that lasts for 2 years. He said Egypt will present a working paper on the manufacture and use of the second generation of Arab satellites.

In response to a question about the Israeli complaints over the criticism it gets in the Egyptian media, al-Sharif said Israel knows that there is true democracy in Egypt, and we cannot in any circumstances ban any opinion or view. He pointed out that peace must be based on persuasion, dialogue, discussion, and openmindedness.

Ministers To Testify in Egypt's Revolution Case

JN2009205689 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 19 Sep 89 p 16

[By Muhammad Tu'aymah]

[Excerpt] The emergency Supreme State Security Court decided yesterday to adjourn the Egypt's Revolution case until 11 October to listen to the testimonies of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Zaki Badr, minister of interior; and four other witnesses for the defense. The court rejected other requests by the defense panel who staged a 2-hour walkout in the middle of the session to protest remarks made by the assistant prosecutor general. The attorneys considered the remarks an insult to them and demanded that the assistant prosecutor general be discharged as representative of the prosecution in this case. Following meetings between the court and the attorneys, they decided to return to the session. The court said in a statement that it harbors all respect for the defense and the prosecution and believes that everyone is doing what he should and reaffirmed the need for a good spirit to prevail between the two sides. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Ethiopia To Halt Aid to Sudanese Rebels 1 Oct

NC1909163289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Sep (MENA)—The Sudanese paper AL-INQADH AL-WATANI reports today that the Ethiopian Government has decided to halt all aid to the rebel movement in southern Sudan as of 1 October.

The paper quotes well-informed sources as saying this decision will also apply to the movement's shortwave radio transmissions.

SPLA on Suspension of Aid

NC2009153089 Paris AFP in English 1452 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Sept 20 (AFP)—A senior official of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Wednesday denied reports from Khartoum that the Ethiopian Government had decided to suspend all aid to the SPLA from October.

Commander Lam Akol Ajawin [name as received] said Ethiopia was giving his movement no aid in the first place, apart from providing facilities for it to meet with visiting officials from Khartoum.

"We are grateful for those facilities but I don't think Ethiopia will stop that," he said.

Commander Lam also denied that the SPLA was broadcasting radio programmes from inside Ethiopian territory and that there were therefore no grounds for Addis Ababa to prohibit such broadcasting.

The Sudanese daily newspaper AL-INQADH AL-WATANI reported from Khartoum Tuesday that Ethiopia had decided to suspend all aid to the SPLA, to whom it would also no longer permit broadcast privileges from Ethiopian territory.

The newspaper report, which quoted "well-informed sources" said Sudanese Housing Minister Muhammad Al-Hadi Ma'mun had visited Addis Ababa on Sunday to deliver a message from junta leader General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad Al-Bashir to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

No one in Addis Ababa would immediately confirm such a visit, and there were no official reports here of a meeting with the president.

Ethiopia has never publicly admitted to giving military or other aid to the SPLA, or to permitting the rebels to broadcast from its territory.

Asked whether the newspaper report was linked to the work of a special government committee set up by Gen. Al-Bashir to explore the ways to peace in Sudan, Commander Lam said he could not say as Khartoum was engaged in a "soliloquy".

The committee in any case was a device to rubber stamp the wishes of the new junta leaders or to divert the attention of a public reeling under an economic crisis, he said.

SPLA Official Denies Receiving Aid

AB2009184089 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 20 Sep 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] If a Sudan military newspaper is to be believed, then the worst fears of the rebel SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] could have materialized. For some years, the Ethiopian Government has allegedly been giving John Garang's rebels aid, rear bases in Ethiopia, and transit permission to run their clandestine radio station from Ethiopian territory. But there has been a change in the diplomatic climate recently and, according to the Sudanese newspaper, Ethiopian support for the SPLA is to stop from 1 October. On the line to Addis Ababa, Julien Marshal asked (Lima Recala) of the SPLA High Command if they had heard of that decision.

[Begin recording] [Recala] Well, I haven't heard, ...[changes thought] I haven't read actually that newspaper report. But I would be surprised, because we are not getting aid from Ethiopia, so it will be funny for somebody to stop something which he doesn't give. So I doubt the credibility of that report.

[Marshal] So, you are denying that you get any aid from Ethiopia at all?

[(Recala)] At all. We are not getting any aid from Ethiopia whatsoever.

[Marshall] But Mr (Recala), I thought it was an open secret that you did, in fact, have rear bases in Ethiopia, and that the Ethiopians had, over the years, supplied you with military supplies and allowed you to broadcast from Ethiopian territory with your Radio SPLA?

[(Recala)] These were the old media speculations. There is no grain of truth to all these claims. We don't have any media station in Ethiopia. We have it in southern Sudan. Ethiopia doesn't even given us any military support. What it does, and everybody knows, is that we have been making meetings in Ethiopia here with all the various political parties inside Sudan. And this has been going on since 1986. This is why they had allowed us to have an office here with two people to coordinate all these peace efforts. That's all.

[Marshall] So you are saying that it is possible that you might leave Addis Ababa?

[(Recala] I mean, possible in what sense? [laughs] We have never been in Addis Ababa. As I told you, we have only two people here in Addis Ababa, and the only reason why they are here is to coordinate contacts regarding peace meetings which have been taking place since 1986 in Addis Ababa here with the help of the Ethiopian Government.

[Marshall] This same newspaper report said that the SPLA had already started to approach other countries, namely Chad, Uganda, and Kenya with the possibility of starting up operations from those countries.

[(Recala] Again, this is also not true, because we do not (?seek) from other places. We have a big [word indistinct] of land in Sudan, which is even bigger than some of the countries you have counted. [end recording]

Garang Discusses National Political Issues

JN1709181289 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 16 Sep 89 pp 9, 10

[Interview with John Garang, leader of Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, by Taha al-Nu'man in Addis Ababa—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] AL-ITTIHAD: Your last statement urged, maybe for the first time, that your People's Army be integrated into the Sudanese Armed Forces. Do you think this demand will prove acceptable politically and militarily, or will it further exacerbate the conflict and push the peace prospects further away?

Garang: This brings us back to the question you raised on a new Sudan and reconstructing state authority. The Army is part of the state authority and, along with the judiciary, the legislature, and the executive branch, is one of its key institutions. If we are talking about building a new Sudan, inevitably we would have to have a new army in keeping with the new arrangement.

Talking about integration, I did not have in mind an automatic merger of the two armies. Otherwise, there would be the prospect of a repetition of the 1972 experience in the wake of the Addis Ababa agreement when the Anya Nya forces were assimilated but no change occurred. I am not calling for incorporating the people's liberation forces into the country's Army. This would not be feasible, assuming that agreement to do that were secured; the popular army is too large. I do not want to mention figures. Furthermore, it is not a regular army. It is an army in which contradiction between the military and political echelon has been resolved. So we are talking about building a new army consistent with the requirements of a new political order, as I have said.

This much ought to be understood, because when we talk about peace and dialogue, we are not talking about old formulas: What do the southerners want? We are not talking as southerners. We maintain that all the Sudanese, including us in the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], have equal rights and must sit together to forge a new Sudan. Such an approach is central to the understanding of the peace process itself. It is not just a question of negotiations between the movement and the incumbent government in Khartoum. Today, we have Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir as leader of the government. Tomorrow, it may be someone else. We have seen Numayri, Siwar al-Dhahab, and four governments led by al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, and then we have the incumbent one, which is the seventh. It is therefore important that, regardless of what government is in office in Khartoum, we have lasting peace involving all the other political forces as well as the trade unions and popular organizations. All of them must sit together and work out the shape of the new Sudan. The question is not about what to give to or withhold from John Garang. That would be the wrong approach. No one has the prerogative to give or deny anything. All must be equal within the context of building the new Sudan. It is a process of political concord that we have sought since 1985 and even before the downfall of Numayri, and that is what the national constitutional conference is all about. [passage omitted]

AL-ITTIHAD: A number of political circles accuse you of not having free will and independent decisionmaking and say that your movement and its activities are governed by the positions of sides that support you. They frankly say that your will is in the hands of Ethiopia, which gives you facilities and camps in its territories and that Ethiopia will not approve peace unless it guarantees a solution to the Eritrean problem and to the problems of the other areas in Ethiopia. People also say that you receive military support and aid from the East, the West, and the World Council of Churches and that these sides do not want stability in Sudan. What do you say, and are you ready to disclose the sources of your aid and weapons?

Garang: Such talk that we lack free will and independent decisionmaking is not true. We are a completely independent national movement. This in itself may surprise many people. If you look at liberation movements these days, you will find that the SPLM is unique and differs from other movemnts. We do not receive any aid from Moscow or Washington.

When I visited Washingtion, I was asked about this point and our position on regional conflicts. In Nicaragua, the contras are opposed to the Sandinists; in Angola, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola is opposed to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola; and in Afghanistan, the Afghan Communist Party under Najibullah is opposed to the mujahidin. I was also asked whether any solution to these problems could be used in the Horn of Africa. They place Sudan in the Horn of Africa. I replied that in that region, the East supports one side that is opposed to another side supported by the West. For example, the contras are supported by the West against the Sandinists, who are supported by the East. This is also the case in both Angola and Afghanistan. However, in our case, the big powers cannot interfere in our problem, because we do not receive any aid from them. That is why they cannot impose their concepts or solutions on the region.

I visited the FRG, Britain, and the United States. This shook the Khartoum government, because they used to say that I could not go to the West. Numayri, Siwar-al-Dhahab, and Al-Sadiq al-Mahddi used to say that I was a prisoner in the East. So, when I went to the West, they did not know what to say, because they did not expect that. As a result, they sent an eight-man delegation to Washington headed by a State Council member and including six southerners to trace my activities.

In fact, I went to the West as an ordinary person. I bought my tickets and applied for the visas. I would also go to Moscow tomorrow if allowed. We have complete freedom of movement and speech, and when I visit any country, I say what I believe.

Regarding the Eritrean issue, I can say it is a domestic affair governed by contradictions and the internal Ethiopian situation. Of course it has an impact on the foreign level, because Ethiopia is not an isolated island. It is like our situation in Sudan. It is a domestic issue governed by the Sudanese situation, and it interacts with the facts of the international situation. However, this does not mean any organic or direct relationship between the Sudanese situation and the Ethiopian situatiuon. In 1972, for example, a solution was reached between the Sudanese Government and the Anya Nya forces through the Addis Ababa agrement. However, the agreement has not resulted in any solution to the Eritrean problem. [passage omitted]

AL-ITTIHAD: Also in this context, how do you see Sudan's Arab relations devleloping in the future? What kind of role do you envisage for Sudan in terms of Arab-African relations? As an Arab newspaper, we are interested in learning your views on this score. Do you see them as good-neighborly ties or relations of cooperation or even unity?

Garang: Let me once again come to our key topic and that is the new Sudan, which should be the product of a qualitative political change. This transformation derives from numerous sources: The Arab, Islamic, African, and Christian components in addtion to the international dimension. A combination of these should make a new identity which we like to call the new Sudan. Within this framework there may be good-neighborliness or relations of cooperation or unity. I can also think of parallels here with the United States and England. The Americans are not English; neither are the two countries one nation. They are two separate nations, each with its own identity. The United States has its own identity but is not in conflict with Britain. Neither country seeks to absorb the other. There are relations of cooperation between them, and here we have cultural interaction. The new Sudan will be hostile neither to the Arab world nor to Africa. Such are our components, and we cannot deny the existence of any one of them. There is a recognizable Sudanese identity, however. This is how, on the whole, we see our future ties with the Arab and African worlds. This is how we ought to set about building our external relations.

AL-ITTIHAD: While you advocate a secular state, your opponents in the Islamic Front and some other parties insist that the majority of the Sudanese people are Muslim and that a secular state would constitute an attack on the country's Islamic identity, and so they would not subscribe to such a state whatever arguments were advanced in support of it. They want to rule by Shari'a law even if they had to declare holy war. Do you not think a compromise formula may be found whereby non-Muslims are guaranteed their right of full citizenship and at the same time advocates of Shari'a law are satisfied?

Garang: Sudan is not the only Muslim country in the world. There are many Muslim countries in which Muslims constitute a greater majority. In Sudan, Muslims constitute 75 percent of the population. There are countries in which Muslims constitute 98 percent of the population. Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Mali, and Indonesia fall into this category. So, we are not the only country in which Muslims form the majority. Only a few countries—Pakistan and Iran, for example—in which Muslims form a majority have a religous system of government.

By calling for separating state and religion—Christian as well Islamic—we are not saying that we are anti-Muslim or anti-Christian. We want the state to be for all and for relgion to be left to the individual. We are not alone in this. The Islamic Front and the Muslim Brotherhood see themselves as representatives of the Muslim majority. I cannot see on what grounds. Neither of them has won a majority vote at the polls. Al-Turabi himself has failed to be elected for the Khartoum constituency. I do not approach the subject as a southerner or as a Christian. The Muslims themselves have not given a mandate to the Muslim Brotherhood to speak on their behalf. The people of al-Turabi adopt a formula of Islam that does not suit Sudan. [passage omitted]

AL-ITTIHAD: Since day one, leaders of the salvation revolution voiced their desire to achieve peace. They said the issue of the "September laws" and Shari'a law can be resolved through negotiations and that this issue is very sensitive, and it would be unwise to abrogate them in a decision issued by them. They also said that if the problem cannot be resolved through negotiations, they will refer it to a plebiscite so that the people can have their say. What is your objection to this proposal?

Garang: Our position on the secular state is clear, and the position of the other political forces is also clear. The majority of the Sudanese parties and political forces that rely on Muslim voters call, just as we do, for a nonreligious state. At the Koka Dam meeting in Ethiopia in 1985, which was attended mainly by Muslims, the people there called for a secular state.

I would like to affirm that it is not only the SPLM that calls for a secular state. When we talk about the majority, I say yes, the majority wants a secular state.

Therefore, the SPLM is not the only side concerned with this subject for it to become a topic of discussion between the SPLM and the "standing regime in Khartoum." This must be clear. The September laws are not the only subject that, if solved or if there is an agreement on, will lead to ending the war and achieving peace. We are talking about building "the new Sudan" on new bases of equality and democracy—equality without regard to race, religion, and so forth. We are also talking about the identity of the new Sudan, which we dealt with in the first question. Therefore, the September laws are not the only subject. This is an misunderstanding of the SPLM's position.

As we said in our program, we want to sit with the other political forces and professional associations and with the Sudanese Army to resolve all major contradictions and problems facing Sudan so that we can at the end arrive at a new constitution for the country.

Talk about referring them to a plebiscite is unacceptable. Islamic laws or the Shari'a are the laws of God; and laws of God should not be referred to a plebiscite because this amounts to atheism. So, let us keep this a relationship between man and and his creator. This is our position.

AL-ITTIHAD: Your last statement came in the wake of the preliminary negotiations between an SPLM delegation and a government team. The statement apparently made unenforceable demands like the formation of a broad-based government comprising the political forces, trade unions, and the Armed Forces and the release of political prisoners and their participation in the constitutional conference. Don't you think that these damands have closed the door before a peaceful, negotiation settlement, given that the new regime has extended the cease-fire, declared a general amnesty, and displayed goodwill toward you?

Garang: Before the statement was issued, pronouncements of the new regime had sought to mislead the masses. Their declarations created an atmosphere leading one to think that there was some kind of secret agreement between them and us. There were even rumors that Lt Gen 'Umar al-Bashir and I had met clandestinely in Saudi Arabia.

Our stand as expressed in the recent statement was one of principle rather than opportunism. We wanted our stand to be clear before we talked to the military rulers. We had the right to act as we did. Gen 'Umar declared that he intends to set up unity among Egypt, Sudan, and Libya and greater Arab unity. They had announced their policies even before we sat down to talk.

It is not true that we had made unenforceable demands or brought on a difficult situation. It is the same position we had before the negotiations began. It is based on principles, and principles do not change. [passage omitted]

AL-ITTIHAD: The new regime has declared sectarianism to be a principal enemy and blamed it for political corruption and for holding up democratic progress in Sudan. Why don't you count this as one of the points you have in common and on which you can build a new understanding, especially given that you vigorously denounce sectarianism and hold it responsible for Sudan's problems? Moreover, the country's new leaders have repeatedly disassociated themselves from the Islamic Front.

Garang: I wholeheartedly support their denunciation of sectarianism, as we are antisectarian. We maintain that sectarianism is responsible for a good many of Sudan's problems over the past 33 years since independence.

Now let's try to define sectarianism. I call sectarian those political organizations for which being Sudanese is not sufficient qualification to join or rise to the top echelons. Take the Al-Ummah Party, for example. If you want to joint it, it is not enough that you are Sudanese. You must also be an adherent of the Al-Ansar sect as well as a member of the Al-Mahdi family if you aspire to ascend to leadership. This is sectarianism. The same holds true for the Democratic Unionist Party, which is dominated by the Khatmiyyah sect and the Al-Mirghani family. The latter, however, is less of a sectarian party since it includes Al-Azhari-led unionists who became independent from the Khatmiyyah.

The Al-Ummah Party itself is less a sectarian party than the National Islamic Front, which I consider to be the most sectarian of the three parties. You are not eligible for membership of the National Islamic Front unless you are a Muslim extremist.

Armed Forces Paper Views Dialogue Conference

EA2009141789 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Sep 89

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial this morning, AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH mentioned optimism and the success of the national dialogue conference. The nation is earnestly following the discussions and deliberations of the national dialogue conference where all are convinced that peace is the only and best way to solve the many problems that have plagued Sudan for more than 30 years. The various views and options expressed represent a common basis for agreement. All indications point to the success of the conference to end the bloodshed.

We look to the conference with conviction as a last resort for all of us to save Sudan from stagnation and backwardness to explore new horizons of prosperity and development. Our hopes are centered on the statement by the Revolution Command Council member Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, chairman of the conference steering committee, that the conference's resolutions and recommendations would be a base for a perfect structure for the future of the Sudan.

Government Adopts Economic Reform Program

EA2009135589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Statement by 'Ali Muhammed Shummu, minister of culture and information and official government spokesman, on 19 September joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council (RCC) and the Council of Ministers—recorded]

[Text] At 0800 today, the Council of Ministers and the RCC convened an extraordinary joint meeting at the Council of Ministers building. The meeting was chaired by Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir,

chairman of the National Salvation RCC and prime minister. Today's joint session was devoted to hearing a report submitted by Dr Sayyid 'Ali Zaki, the minister of finance and economic planning, and which included the program for economic and financial reform of the national salvation revolution. The session lasted until 1430.

The report said that the reasons for the economic deterioration affecting Sudan and which prompted the National Salvation Revolution to take power from the parties which formerly ruled the country. [sentence as heard] That dreadful economic deterioration was reflected in the fact that in the period from 1982 to 1987, the economic growth factor was negative to the tune of -1, whereas the income level of the individual fell by 38 per cent. Pay and salary increases were applied in the country during the past few years unrelated to productivity. This lead to the financing of these increases from the banking system and to price rises, which in turn led to a rise in the cost of living, because what was spent on these increases in pay and salaries in the year 1988-1989 amounted to 1.5 billion Sudanese pounds. Meanwhile the government's indebtedness last year to the banking system alone amounted to 4.8 billion pounds.

When the revolution took power on 30 June, it found no sugar stock and so it had to set aside sugar allocated for industrial purposes and divert it for the consumption of citizens. Moreover, petrol available at that time could suffice at the most for 7 days. As for wheat and flour, there was only enough to last 2 weeks. The foreign currency reserve held by the Bank of Sudan on 30 June 1989 totalled $4 million, insufficient to meet the cost of imports for even a day. The budget approved during the night preceding the revolution was subject to a deficit arising from an imbalance present in the budget between revenue and expenditure. That deficit amounted to, or was estimated to amount to, 7.1 billion pounds.

Since coming to power, the revolution has been evaluating and studying the economic situation and trying to find solutions by which to correct the economic situation, first by overcoming that large deficit, and then by going on to lay foundations to guarantee the soundness of the economy and overcome the imbalance which has been affecting it over the past years.

The steps the revolution is to take, as outlined by the minister of finance in his reform program, involve expenditure reductions, increasing prices, and the removal of subsidies as a policy which will begin gradually and will continue with an increase in the exports of our abundant products—as well as an increase in agricultural and industrial production. This issue of production is a very important one, because if Sudanese citizens do not increase production, that will have a negative impact on the economic plan and on the economic program, inasmuch as the situation faced by the nation is not of this revolution's making and is an issue affecting every citizen in this land. Accordingly, if we all decided to rise to the occasion and face up to these problems then we must certainly make sacrifices. Moreover, in order to confront these harsh circumstances we must step up production until the country stands on its own two feet again.

During the deliberations at the Council of Ministers it was decided to annul some tax concessions and to lay down a plan to increase revenue and reduce expenditure, as well as to orientate the country anew toward a dependence on local production. For example, the strategy of making it depend on sorghum as the primary food crop and seeking to mix sorghum with wheat under specifications. This would supply the citizens with bread and at the same time obviate Sudan's need to import wheat, as well as obviating the circumstances Sudan encountered every time there was a shortage or a shortfall in wheat reserves. So, as I said, the measures to be adopted will reduce the deficit from 7.1 billion Sudanese pounds to 1.6 billion Sudanese pounds. This will be in the framework of the plan to release the government from its indebtedness to the banking system.

There was extensive discussion of this program at the Council of Ministers, which was presented by the minister of finance. The council of ministers realized that the Sudanese citizen has put up with a great deal over recent years and that the burden placed upon him should not be so harsh as to affect him, but there was no alternative to the citizen participating in ridding himself of the problems besetting him. Perhaps for that reason some gradual measures are being adopted which will not greatly affect the life of the people and their livelihood. For example, the price of bread will be increased to 25 qirsh, which is considerably less than the real value of the bread, for if the subsidy supporting its price were completely removed, then the same loaf which will tomorrow be sold at 25 qirsh would cost more than 113 qirsh.

However, the revolution wished the citizen to shoulder this small part to enable him to contribute—within reasonable limits—towards a reduction of that deficit. Similarly the price of sugar for example, will not increase tomorrow, but there will be in this respect a review of its price following the new harvest when production begins next November. There will also be efforts to review oils and soap in a manner which will not greatly affect the citizen's cost of living. All this will be linked with the availability of these commodities so that their availability under the new prices—which will rise by very little indeed—will be much better than under the present situation in which the citizen is suffering. Thus the citizen will to a great extent participate in the removal of burdens from himself and he will also be participating in putting to rights this parlous economic situation.

At this point I would like to say that the discussions between the RCC and the Council of Ministers were practical, and that this plan adopted today constitutes the starting point for a salvation, and the starting point for economic and financial reform. Thank you very much.

Former Interior Minister Discusses Escape, Coup

AB1509104589 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 14 Sep 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The leader of the former civilian government in Sudan, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who was toppled in a military coup on June 30, is still languishing in jail in Khartoum, presumably, while General Al-Bashir's regime decides what to do with him. But some of the members of Al-Mahdi's family and government made good their escape from Sudan before the net tightened, among them, Al-Sadiq's cousin, Mubarak [al-Fadil al-Mahdi], who was minister of the interior. He has now made his way to London, and Robin White asked Mubarak al-Mahdi now he had managed to escape the coup:

[Begin recording] [Al-Mahdi] Well, it happened to be that I was not at my house at the time that the military [word indistinct] came to my home. I was alerted round about 0330 in the morning, and I did not go back home. I went into hiding. I alerted the chief of police to the fact that there was something funny going on—there is a military coup or something—and I went into hiding, and after that I was in contact with the prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, and we decided that he should hand himself over because it would be safer for him this way, and it will allow him to have more contacts with other parties and political leaders.

[White] So, you are saying he agreed to surrender?

[Al-Mahdi] Yes.

[White] He was not captured, he agreed to surrender?

[al-Madhi] No, he agreed to surrender, and that was very clear in his memorandum, the memorandum that he wrote to the junta that all he is hoping for is a fair trial if they want to put him to trial.

[White] On the day of the coup, were there any attempts by you as interior minister to try and resist this coup?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, I have alerted the chief of police round about 0330 or is it quarter to 4, as I got information on this military move. I thought the man could have made some moves that could uncover the plot or in any way help in foiling it.

[White] But he did nothing?

[Al-Mahdi] He did nothing.

[White] Is it that he supported the coup?

[Al-Mahdi] It is possible that he has supported it. It is (?also) not possible that [pause] because of the lack of experience in dealing with such cases, he saw that it was not advisable for him to move the police against the Army.

[White] And you say you went into hiding. How long were you in hiding in Khartoum, and whom you were hiding with?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, I was in hiding for a month, and I stayed with friends who were not suspected to be my friends because they were not around me anyway, and I kept moving from one to the other until I planned my way out of Khartoum.

[White] Where did you go out of Khartoum?

[al-Mahdi] I went westward. I crossed the desert into Libya. It was a long journey of 1,600 km.

[White] Did you drive on your own or did somebody drive you?

[Al-Mahdi] Yes, I had... [changes thought] we were a convoy of about four cars.

[White] And so, you were all escaping to Libya?

[Al-Mahdi] Yes, they were all accompanying me. They were some of our party members and [word indistinct] who were, in a way, driving or navigating or otherwise protecting me.

[White] How were you received in Libya?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, I was quite well received, and they welcomed me. They gave me access to leave the country.

[White] Are you now working to try to overthrow this military government in Khartoum or have you accepted it all as a fait accompli that you can do nothing about?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, the military government in Khartoum based on the support of the Muslim Brotherhood is completely isolated from the people, from the Army, and from the outside world.

[White] According to some papers, it is extremely popular for some of the things they have done.

[Al-Mahdi] Ah, I do not think anybody who has visited Khartoum or has heard from people coming from Khartoum will say that they are popular. They have been unable to administer the country. Now, the opposition has grouped against this regime. A charter has been signed between the political parties and the unions...

[White, interrupting] Where has this charter been signed?

[Al-Mahdi] In Khartoum. It has been signed between the political parties and the unions.

[Whie] When did this happen?

[Al-Mahdi] It was signed about 2 weeks ago, and that has...

[White, interrupting] [Words indistinct] It has not been published, has it?

[Al-Mahdi] It has been published in some of the Arabic papers. Copies of it had been published. And this charter has called for overthrow of the military junta and called for the imposition of a broadly based civilian government to include the political parties, the unions, and national elements in the Army, and the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army].

[White] And your party as well?

[Al-Mahdi] Yes, all the political parties. Now, the main parties that have signed this were the Ummah Party, the DUP—the Democratic Unionist Party—the Communist Party, and Ba'athist Party. The only party which had not signed obviously is the NIF, the Islamic Front, because they are under other side of the coin, they are supporting the military junta. So, all the unions have signed, and all their leaders are in jail, and preparations are going on for a general strike that would force the junta to step down.

[White] Is this not just a bit of wishful thinking on your part?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, if you follow what is happening in the Sudan, you will ascertain by yourself that this is not wishful thinking. Now...

[White, interrupting] And what are you doing yourself?

[Al-Mahdi] Well, I am part of that charter, and as my party had signed, I am promoting this charter and explaining to the press, to the international opinion, and to countries around the Sudan what is happening in the Sudan to achieve the goals of this charter.

[White] What will you say to those Sudanese who might think you had your chance, you failed; you should thus give up, go away?

[Al-Mahdi] Well in democracy, there are solutions to failures, through the ballot box. If you fail, the people have the choice to take you out and to replace you by whoever they think is qualified to take over. This is the rule of the game in democracy. We do not need the Army to come with slogans of the fifties to overthrow a civilian government and to impose themselves as saviors and rulers of the country because the Army had failed. Out of 33 years since Sudan's independence, almost 23 or 25 years had been under Army rule, and Army rule has destroyed and devastated the country. [end recording]

Darfur Region Supervisor Addresses Rally

EA1709173089 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 17 September—The political supervisor for Darfur Region and member of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council Brigadier Al-Tijani Adam al-Tahir, has again called on those in the region taking part in armed robberies to lay down their weapons, stressing the revolution's readiness to find suitable work for them. Al-Tijani, addressing a public rally, said [word indistinct] that the revolution will pay those the cost of their weapons, stressing, at the time [words indistinct] the revolution to strike anybody who plays around without mercy. He said during [word indistinct] the region to preserve the clauses of the tribal reconciliation agreement, which was signed during the previous months between the Arabs and the Fur in the region and its meticulous execution for the sake of [word indistinct] and the development of the region.

Courts Authorize Presence of Defense Lawyers

EA1409200589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] The National Salvation Revolution Command Council has decided to permit the presence of defense lawyers to represent persons accused before the special courts with effect from today, according to Colonel 'Abd al-Wahhab Ahmad 'Uthman, chairman of Court No 3 in Omdurman.

His Excellency explained that Court No 3 had not deviated from the justice guaranteed by the law to the litigants before it. It had followed the rules and procedures issued by the authorities that ordered its formation.

His Excellency said the court had requested the special court of appeal concerned with the trial of the prisoner Idris al-Banna to return the documents relating to this case on the basis of the request made by the accused before this court for defense representation. The request had been rejected on the basis of the procedures and principles governing this court inasmuch as the appeals court had not issued a final ruling on the case.

The chairman of the court said all accused tried before it and who suffered by virtue of lack of defense representation could request the special appeals court in Khartoum to return the documents relating to their cases for reexamination.

Death Sentence Proposed for Drug Dealing

EA1409212989 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Staff Brigadier Faysal 'Ali Abu Salih, National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council interior minister, recently received, from the office of the attorney general, the draft law on narcotics and other substances affecting mental facilities.

The interior minister will complete the procedures for its proclamation through the judicial means in force.

A responsible source from the Office of the Attorney General has stated that the new law provides for a death penalty for cases involving trading in narcotics, hashish, and opium. The law also tackles the issue of narcotics in various other ways.

Arrests for Foreign Currency Dealings Reported

EA1709181189 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 17 September—Security units have a arrested a number of people dealing in foreign currency outside official channels in various locations, including Khartoum airport, and at travel and tourist agencies. This was stated by Colonel Sayf al-Din Mirghani, chairman of the committee for following up the implementation of decisions by the Economic Committee. He pointed out that reports about cases in which investigations were completed had been forwarded to the courts. His Excellency pointed out the gravity of dealing in foreign currency and its effect on the national economy. He added that punishment could be as severe as execution. He asked citizens to cooperate with security officials by immediately reporting any dealings in foreign currency outside official channels.

New Political Daily Begins Publication

NC1709145189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1049 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Sep (MENA)—The Sudanese Corporation for Press, Printing, and Publications issued the first edition of AL-INQADH AL-WATANI newspaper today. It is a national political daily.

Muhyi-al-Din Titawi is the chairman of the board and chief editor of the new publication. He graduated from the Omdurman University journalism school in 1969 and was the publisher and chairman of the Sudanese daily AL-USBU' which appeared after the 1985 revolution.

Radio Juba To Extend Transmission Schedule

EA1809210089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The culture and information minister, Ustadh Ali Muhammad Shummu, met in his office at noon [1000 GMT] today with the military governor of Equatoria Region, Staff Major General Allison Magaya, with whom he discussed the needs of Radio Juba, prolonging its periods of transmission, and the issue of maintenance. They also discussed TV transmissions, the work of the ground-based station in Juba, and the steps to be taken to repair the TV station. The minister approved the increase in hours of transmission for Radio Juba. The meeting also touched on issues related to information work.

Government Decides To Cease Sugar Imports

EA1209225089 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Sep—The Sudanese Government has decided not to import sugar beginning with the current season, and to rely instead, on local production of this commodity, a responsible source in the Ministry of Finance told SUNA. The source added that local production was sufficient to cover consumption if the industry rose to its capacity. The source pointed out that the government would deal with all the obstacles facing the sugar factories in a radical manner.

It is worth noting that the responsible authorities have declared that the sugar currently in store is enough to cover consumption until local production begins in November.

Correction to Soviet Envoy Stresses Support

EA1909105089

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Soviet Envoy Stresses Support for Government," published in the 19 September Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page six:

page six, column two, penultimate paragraph, first line, make read: [Text] This morning at his office in Friendship Hall and in the presence of General Joseph Lagu, retired, Colonel Muhammad al-Amin al-Khalifah Yunus, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and chairman of the National Dialogue for Peace Steering Committe, met the Soviet ambassador in Khartoum to discuss the...(rewording and clearing name)

Kuwait

Chad's Foreign Minister Delivers Habre Message

AB2009104789 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar arrived in Kuwait yesterday to deliver a message from the president of the Republic to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, who is also the chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference [OIC]. According to an AFP release which quoted Kuwaiti official sources, the message is on strengthening cooperation between Chad and Kuwait in all fields and the situation in Chad. In a statement issued by KUNA Acheikh ib Oumar, the head of Chadian diplomacy praised Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah for his efforts to end to the Chad-Libya dispute. In this regard, Acheikh ibn Oumar stressed that meetings between Chadian and Libyan officials will soon be held in Tripoli and Ndjamena to examine ways to settle the border dispute between the two countries, both members of the OIC.

PDRY

Burkina Faso's Compaore Leaves for Home

EA1909200589 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Mr Blaise Compaore, chairman of the Popular Front and president of Burkina Faso, left Aden this evening after a friendly 1-day visit to Democratic Yemen. Leading the farewell delegation were brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas, Political Bureau member and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and a number of Political Bureau and Central Committee members and ministers.

Before departing, Mr Compaore held a news conference for ANA. He expressed gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him by our country, stressing that his visit to our country had been made within the framework of strengthening bilateral friendship. He said he had discussed during the visit with brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, ways of developing bilateral relations and coordination of stances on international fora. He expressed his country's desire to improve relations with Democratic Yemen in various spheres, including exchanges of visits, delegations and ambassadors between the two countries. He stressed that Burkina Faso and Democratic Yemen were linked by a joint struggle and joint objectives in the joint political and economic fields and aimed at building their societies anew.

A working meeting was held this afternoon at the Supreme People's Council Presidium between brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas, Politburo member and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Mr Blaise Compaore, chairman of the Popular Front and president of Burkina Faso, [words indistinct] his friendly visit to our country, pointing out that this visit will contribute to the creation of friendly relations between the two countries in their joint interests, and that there were prospects for cooperation in the [words indistinct]. Mr Compaore expressed happiness over his friendly visit to our country and the warm welcome he received which had enabled him to become acquainted with various aspects of life in our country.

In the meeting, they discussed the future relations between the two countries, including a number of issues of concern for both countries, their friendly peoples, and for the Arab and African people and the stances of both countries. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Interior Statement on Hajj Violence

LD2109103889 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Sep 89

["Text" of Ministry of Interior statement, date not given]

[Excerpts] An important statement by the Interior Ministry. [passage omitted]

At about 2200 on 10 July, 1989 a number of explosions occurred near the Holy Mosque in Mecca while huge masses of pilgrims were inside and near it performing Hajj rites for which they had gone to the trouble of traveling [words indistinct].

This criminal act led to the death of a Pakistani pilgrim and 16 other pilgrims received injuries of varying degrees of severity; some were in critical condition. This is in addition to material damage to some of the buildings next to the Holy Kaaba. Security forces rushed immediately to the scene of the incident and each section carried out its duties. The scenes of the bombings were cordoned off by the security forces to provide safety and security to the pilgrims, considering that this concern comes above the security forces duties. The injured were transported to hospitals and the appropriate security circles carried out their investigations to find the perpetrators of this abhorrent crime.

A series of security investigations and thorough studies of the circumstances surrounding the incidents followed which took into consideration the time and place and the huge number of pilgrims and their movement during that very night as they prepared to ascend Mount 'Arafat. God's blessing was with the pilgrims, as God almighty helped the public investigators arrest those behind this crime. Once arrested, they confessed and told who their accomplices were in this crime.

All those who have been incriminated are Shiites. They are:
'Ali 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim: Kuwaiti by nationality and origin;
Mansur Hasan 'Abdullah Lasnit: Kuwaiti by nationality and origin;
'Abd-al-Aziz Husayn 'Ali Muhammad Shams: Kuwaiti citizen of Saudi origin;
'Abd-al-Wahab Husayn 'Ali Barul: Kuwaiti national of Iranian origin;
Hani Habib Tahir al-Misri: Kuwaiti by nationality and origin;
'Adil Muhammad Khalifah Bahman, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Hasan 'Abd-al-Jalil Husayn al-Husayni, Kuwaiti citizen of Saudi origin;
'Abd al-Husayn Karam Dawish Nasir, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Isma'il Ja'far Ghulum Ja'far, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
'Abdullah Asad 'Abdullah 'Ali Rida, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Salih 'Abd-al-Rasul Yasin Hajiyah, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Hamad 'Abdullah Ahmad Abbas Dishti, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Haytham 'Abbas 'Abbas Ghulum Husayn, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Sayid Ahmad Sayid 'Ali Sayid Abbas 'Abd-al-Rasul, of Kuwaiti citizenship and origin;
Yusuf 'Abdullah Ghulum Ibn Hasan, of Kuwaiti citizenship and origin;
'Ali Ahmad 'Abbas Baqir, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Yahya Qanbar 'Ali Al Ja'far, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Muhammad 'Abbas Baqir, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin;
Mahmud 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; and
Husayn Habib 'Abbas Husayn, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin.

All of these people came under cover as a group of pilgrims to the 1989 Hajj at various times and by various means of transportation.

During interrogation, they confessed—while in full mental capacity as demanded by the Shari'ah—to bringing explosives with them from Kuwait and to receiving training in the use of these explosives in Kuwait to carry out the explosions in the country which God made sacrosanct when he created heaven and earth. They carried out their crime and shed sacrosanct blood in the sacrosanct country in the sacrosanct month, wounded a number of Muslims, frightened the people, and squandered money.

They made preparations and then executed this filthy criminal act. They held various secret meetings in their country, Kuwait, and in their campaign headquarters in the Medina and Holy Mecca. These meetings and preparations were characterized by advanced studies and research, they assigned planned roles aimed at achieving goals, which they divulged through their legally certified confessions. These aims can be summarized as follows:

—To disseminate fear and chaos among the pilgrims.
—To harm security in the holy places.
—To undermine Saudi Arabia and show that it is unable to protect God's holy places, following instructions from individuals who harbor enmity toward this country and toward all pilgrims. They cooperated with these individuals to carry out these terrorist and violent acts inside God's most sacred shrines [words indistinct]. The whole Islamic world was targetted through these acts, as they made sure to choose a time and venue where the biggest number of Muslims assemble.

Following their confessions of these acts and their plotting, the defendants were referred to a religious court, composed of a number of judges. The court looked into their cases on a legal basis, and each defendant was given a chance to defend himself freely and express himself about the charges brought against him. The defendant was allowed to deny anything he liked; that which was not backed by strong evidence was rejected by the court.

Following these proceedings, the court issued a decision that states that the defendants' act is aggression against the holy places, against the pilgrims, and violation of the sanctity of both the venue and time. It is a kind of apostasy, an act of bloodletting that God forbade. These crimes beg for the most severe punishment that would uproot evil and [words indistinct]. The protection and safeguarding of the holy places, the punishment of those become heretics is one of the duties of the custodian of the two holy mosques. A whole army was destroyed when it tried to violate the holy shrines.

As he told his prophet, God's prayers and peace be on him, that god will sink a full army into the ground if it tries to invade the Kaaba.

For a number of considerations, the judges found it necessary to preserve the security of the Holy Mosque and provide the pligrims with security and safety, they sentenced the following to death: 'Ali 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim; Mansur Hasan Hasan Hasan 'Abdullah al-Masnit [name as heard]; 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn Ali Muhammad Shams; 'Abd al-Wahab Husanyn'Ali Barul; Hani Habib Tahir al-Misri; 'Adil Muhammad Khalifah Bahman; Hasan 'Abd al-Jalil Husayn al-Husayni; 'Abd al-Husayn Karam Darwish Nasir; Isma'il Ja'far Ghulum Ja'far; 'Abdullah Asad 'Abdullah 'Ali Rida; Salih 'Abd al-Rasul Yasin Hajiyah; Hamad 'Abdullah Ahmad Abbas Dishti; Haytham 'Abbas 'Abbas Ghulum Husayn; Sayid Ahmad Sayid 'Ali Sayid Abbas 'Abd al-Rasul; Yusuf 'Abdullah Ghulum Ibn Hasan; and 'Ali Ahmad 'Abbas Baqir, because the conditions for sentencing them to death were proved, as they were directly involved, which is necessary for proving the crime of being unbelievers.

The rest of those proved guilty are: Yahya Qanbar Ali Al Ja'far; Muhamad 'Abbas Baqir; Mahmud 'Abdullah

Husayn Kazim; and Husayn Habib 'Abbas Husayn. The evidence for executing them is insufficient so the religious court sentenced them as follows:

'Yahya Qanbar Ali Al Ja'far—20 years imprisonment from the date of arrest and 1500 lashes in 30 installments of 50 each.

The other three, Muhammad 'Abbas Baqir, Mahmud 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim; and Husayn Habib 'Abbas Husayn received sentences of 15 years imprisonment from the date of arrest and 1000 lashes in 20 installments of 50 each.

The court also decided that there is insufficient evedence to punish the following:

Hasan Habib Husayn al-Salman, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; Ahmad Muhammad Tahir Hajiyah, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; 'Abd al-Jalil Sayid Husayn Sayid Baqir al-Tartada'i, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; Adnan al-Sayid 'Abd al-Samad Ahmad Sayid Zahid, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; Jasim Muhammad Ghulum Mahmud Dashti, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; Hasan Ali 'Abdullah Ali Dashti, Kuwaiti citizen of Iranian origin; Muhammad 'Abd al-Latif Hasan al-Musa, Kuwaiti by nationality and origin; Fadil Hasi Muhammad Ahmad al-Qatari, Kuwaity citizen of Qatari origin; and Jamal 'Isa Hasan al-Qabtan, Kuwaiti citizen of Saudi origin.

Those Kuwaiti citizens arrested for suspicion of being accomplices to those who were involved in the crime at the headquarters in Mecca and Medina [words indistinct]. The court has ruled that the accused are innocent until proved guilty.

Afterwards, the sentences to the aforementioned defendants were referred to the [word indistinct] body. It is composed of five judges specializing in these cases. The body adopted the sentences, and referred them to the supreme judicial council, which is the highest judicial authority. It studied the sentences the way similar cases are studied [words indistinct].

The sentences have been carried out in accordance with jurisprudence today, 21 September 1989, in Holy Mecca. Those who have been executed are:

'Ali Abdullah Husayn Kazim, Mansur Hasan 'Abdullah al-Mhimid [name as heard], 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn 'Ali Muhammad Shams, 'Abd al-Wahab Husayn 'Ali Barun, Hani Habib Tahir al-Misri, 'Adil Muhammad Khalifah Bahman, Hasan 'Abd-Al-Jalil Husayn al-Husayni,'Abd al-Husayn Karam Darwish Nasir, Isma'il Ja'far Ghulum Ja'far, 'Abdullah Asad 'Abdullah 'Ali Rida, Salih 'Abd-al-Rasul Yasin Hajiyah, Hamad 'Abdullah Ahmad Abbas Dishti, Maytham 'Abbas 'Abbas Ghulum Husayn, Sayid Ahmad Sayid 'Ali Sayid Abbas abd al-Rassul, Yusuf 'Abdullah Ghulum ibn Hasan, and 'Ali Ahmad 'Abbas Baqir.

While the Interior Ministry announces this to the general public, it would like to stress the effort of the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques to safeguard the holy mosques and provide security to the pilgrims as well as visitors. It will do its utmost to bring the harshest punishment against anyone who tries to harm the sacred places and endanger the security of those who come to these places.

ACC Secretary General Departs After Meetings

JN2009180789 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 20, INA—Mr Hilmi Nammare, secretary general of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) today left Baghdad after attending meetings of the ministerial body of the council ended [as received] in Baghdad last Sunday [17 September].

In a statement to INA, Mr Nammar said the agreements reached during the meetings indicated the desire of heads of government of the member states to accomplish all accords included on the agenda.

He referred to the economic agreement that worked out the general frame for the common Arab market which the Council Secretariat General would work to define the joint projects to be executed. [sentence as received] He added that other agreements that cover social, cultural and information activity would all pool together the economic integration among council member states.

Paper Criticizes ACC Move

JN2109120489 Baghdad INA in English 1000 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, Sept 21, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad has said the Arab tripartite committee's resumption of Lebanon efforts will lead to non-internationalized solution to Lebanese crisis, blocking an urgent Arab summit, and freeing Damascus regime in Lebanon for further carnage.

In an article published here today, the paper added that the new plan of the committee, stipulating an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon, was one of the reasons which hindered the committee's task in the past.

The committee links leaders of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria.

AL-THAWRAH said that the committee was satisfied that the Syrian regime was endeavouring to delay its work until the committee aired its failure.

The paper pointed that the Arab committee was still at the starting point, as it should have dispatched Arab forces to replace the Syrian, seize control of the airport and ports and enforce a ceasefire.

The daily concluded that the committee's current move seemed to be part of the Damascus plan to destroy and disintegrate Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Coverage of Official British Delegation's Visit

Hammadi, Jasim Receive Delegation

JN2009194089 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 20, INA—Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister today received here the visiting British parliamentary delegation which comprises some members of Conservative Party.

During the meeting, Dr Hammadi reviewed with the delegation members bilateral relations and political developments on the Arab and international arenas.

The British delegation arrived in Baghdad yesterday for talks with the Iraqi General Assembly's officials on cementing bilateral parliamentary relations.

Mr Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information today also received the British parliamentary delegation and exchanged with its members views on Arab and international conditions of common interest.

Mr Jasim stressed, during the meeting, importance of exchanging visits between the two countries to get acquainted with the comprehensive development and changes seen in Iraq.

Mr Jasim expounded to the delegation Iraq's principled attitude towards restoring peace with Iran and the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598. The minister recalled stances of the Iranian regime vis-a-vis Iraq's peaceful initiatives and its attempts of blackmailing at the expense of Iraq's firm rights.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Group

JN2009201489 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received today a British parliamentary delegation led by (Tony Marlowe).

During the meeting, they discussed Iraqi-British relations in various spheres and reviewed regional developments, particularly those pertaining to the situation between Iraq and Iran. They also reviewed the Palestine question in light of the recent developments on the Arab and international levels and the latest developments in the situation in Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry under secretary and the head of the First Political Department at the ministry.

Minister Receives Delegation

JN2009204289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industries, met today with the members of the British Conservative Party's parliamentary delegation headed by (Tony Marlowe). During the meeting, which was attended by the ministry's under secretary, the minister reviewed with the delegation Iraq's industrial development plans, and reaffirmed Iraq's desire to promote ties of cooperation with the nations of the world to carry out construction, development, and progress.

Reportage on Visiting Malian Delegation

Minister Meets Delegation

JN2009151089 Baghdad INA in English 1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 20, INA—Mr Latif Nusayyif Jasim, in charge of the External Relations Bureau at the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party (ABSP) Regional Leadership met today Mr M'bouille Siby member of the Executive Bureau of the Union Democratique Du People Malien (UDPM) [as received] and his accompanying delegation.

Mr M'bouille conveyed during the meeting greetings of President Moussa Traore of Mali to President Saddam Husayn and his country's support to Iraq's peaceful stances. During the meeting, party relations and means of developing them, bilateral relations and developments on the Arab and international arenas were discussed.

Mr Jasim touched upon Iran's deviative stances versus the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and engineering peace between Iraq and Iran.

Mr M'bouille and the accompanying delegation arrived here yesterday on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of External Relations Bureau at the ABSP Regional Leadership.

Party Talks Begin

JN2009202889 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Party talks between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Mali People's Democratic Union [MDPU] began at the Regional Command today.

A member of the External Relations Bureau of the Regional Command led the Ba'th party's side to the talks, while a member of the MDPU's Executive Bureau led the MDPU's side to the talks.

During the talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations between the two parties, ways to develop them, and Arab and international issues which are of common interest to the two parties.

The head of the MPDU delegation affirmed that his country was fully confident that Iraq would emerge victorious in the war, as Iraq was looking forward to the attainment of peace and friendship while it was engaged in the war.

Minister Meets Visiting Official From GDR

JN2009202489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)—Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim met today with GDR Deputy Culture Minister [title as received] Dr Hartmut Koenig.

During the meeting, they discussed Iraqi-GDR cultural and information ties and ways to develop them, and the exchange of visits by the officials in charge of media and technical services in both countries.

Dr Koenig paid tribute to the artistic renaissance in Iraq, and voiced his admiration for the manifestations of renaissance and civilizational progress in Iraq.

It is to be recalled that Dr Koenig is visiting Iraq to attend the third international Babylon festival, which will begin on Friday [22 September].

Mubarak Interviewed on 10-Point Plan, Talks

TA2009123889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by Aharon Barne'a in Cairo on 20 September—recorded]

[Text] President Mubarak spoke at great length. In this broadcast, we will be unable to tell you all that he said. We sat with President Mubarak for nearly 2 hours. He spoke very candidly and openly in his simple and very clear language. Mubarak focused on the need to break the psychological barrier, but of course, he started with the 10-point initiative. You have feared, he said, that I would issue an initiative that would put an end to yours. No, sir. We will adopt anything you say, on the condition that it is for the benefit of peace. The 10 points, he says, were only meant to create trust on the Palestinian side to make them come and sit with us.

Shamir's initiative is the elections, he said; no one opposes the elections. My 10 points were merely for clarification, to build trust, because you do not believe the PLO; the PLO does not believe you; and no one believes the other side. We have to break this deadlock. These points, he said, are not a precondition directed at you or the PLO. Just answer the clarifications and come and sit for the dialogue. No one is committed to anything in the dialogue.

You have been in a state of war for the past 40 years, during which you have not once tasted the flavor of peace. You do not know, you cannot estimate, the value of peace. None of the Arab states wishes to go to war against you—not even Iraq. And here Mubarak disclosed: Iraq's President Saddam Husayn told me: Truly, I have no intention of fighting Israel. What is the purpose of your spreading rumors that the Arabs want to fight you?

Mubarak further disclosed that 'Arafat agrees to a dialogue between the two delegations. It is only you, the Israelis, who make things complicated, Mubarak said, adding: I will be very frank about it.

We then asked President Mubarak how, in his opinion, the process could be promoted if a large and important part of the Israeli Government does not accept the principle of land for peace.

In his reply, President Mubarak called on the people in Israel to disagree with its government on this matter. Mubarak said that he urges the Israelis to argue with the government to agree to the principle of land for peace. Use logic, he said, debate it in your parliament, anywhere. I am a president here. Can I force my views on the people when they do not accept it? If I cannot convince representatives in the parliament, I turn to the people.

This crucial matter, Mubarak said, is no game. We want to save lives, to rescue the economy of the countries in the area. Excitedly, Mubarak said: Gentlemen, act logically and have faith in God.

On the Palestinian delegation, Mubarak said: I do not see what is so complicated about this delegation! He asked: Can you hold a dialogue with the residents of the territories without Palestinians from outside? I am presenting you with a challenge; I am not inciting. I tell you because I know it would otherwise be impossible. You Israelis, he said, are like people banging their heads against a wall. Do you not understand that the residents of the territories can do nothing without a go-ahead from the Palestinians living outside the territories? Let us therefore select one or two of the deportees, or those who carry a foreign passport—U.S. or other—to be part of the delegation. What can 2 out of a delegation of 10 change? Will those two from the outside bite anyone? And if Israel says they will never talk to the PLO, I will bring along two from outside the territories who carry no sign on them saying: We are PLO. It is very simple, he said; we will say that they are from the WHO.

Referring to the Palestinians' right-of-return issue, he said: You only want to make things complicated. First, sit and hold a dialogue, and start negotiating later. Who will return? I differ with you on this matter. A Palestinian residing in Egypt or in any other Arab country who has already built himself a home and has roots there will not want to return to you. When you keep repeating: Do not return, you will not return, you are creating the opposite effect. It is human nature to be stubborn. 'Arafat, he said, has the support of a majority of Palestinians, but he also has an opposition in his organization. In Israel, as well, not everyone wants peace. The heart of the issue is the Palestinian problem, Mubarak said. Once this is solved, all other problems with the Arab states will be solved. Syria also wants peace.

Everything should be done in stages. You cannot talk about everything at once; you cannot go straight up to the 10th floor without using an elevator or the stairs. Mubarak, however, clearly stated: I support a discussion on all stages already at the preparatory stage of the dialogue, so that all the parties know where they are heading. Look, he said, how much time we have lost since I called on George Shultz to open a dialogue with the PLO. I fear that you are going to do the same thing and lose another 3 or 4 years, although in the end you will sit down and hold a dialogue with the Palestinians. Not only is the ball now in the Israeli court, Mubarak said, but all the balls belonging to the various types of sport are now in the Israeli court, and let us wait and see how you play the game.

Coalition Members Comment

TA1709100989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Report by Shlomo Raz—recorded]

[Text] [Raz] The remarks you are about to hear will not come as a surprise. Each speaker will present the positions you would expect them to present. Speaking after the forum of four meeting and before the international contacts continue, [Ecology and Environmental Protection] Minister Roni Milo sees no reason to talk of the government falling apart. Such remarks were made in the Likud.

[Milo] I do not think that at this stage there is a real threat to the continued existence of the government. After all, the dispute is over issues that the Cabinet could reach resolutions about. The Israeli peace initiative has been the basis for the Cabinet agreement in the past, and it is agreed upon at present as well.

[Raz] Can the Likud back progress in the initiative, adopting the 10 points as such or in another version, or would the Central Committee braces limit it?

[Milo] As far as the Likud is concerned, there are no difficulties. After all, the peace initiative is the one the Likud members have supported, and the one which most of the Likud ministers in the Cabinet have endorsed. That is why I see no problem here.

[Raz] On the other side, in the same coalition, Deputy Finance Minister Yosi Beilin does not change his optimistic tone, or his assessment that things are moving. This is the same opinion he voiced after the meeting of the forum of four.

[Beilin] I believe that we are looking at 2 weeks when issues concerning this initiative will become more clear. I believe that after the meetings between the Cabinet ministers and President Mubarak matters will clear further. Consequently, the Cabinet would convene in 2 to 2 and ½ weeks and make a decision.

[Raz] Could not the Inner Cabinet reach a paralyzing tie?

[Beilin] It is hard for me to envision how this plan could be rejected. If indeed a meeting between an Israeli and a Palestinian delegation would be suggested so that we are not obligated to the 10 points, so that they are binding to the Palestinians alone, I find it hard to believe that the Israeli Cabinet would be willing to reject this opportunity as well.

[Raz] The opposition to the right rejects it outright, without going into details. The opposition on the left accepts it, though they would rather see more energetic moves. Knesset Member Refa'el Eytan and his party, Tzomet, have expressed their opposition to it. They mentioned an ambush combined with a roadside bomb.

[Eytan] We believe that this is a transparent U.S. trick, combined with the Arabs. This could be seen in the fact that when Shamir presented his plan the Arabs objected to it and a freeze followed. The Americans do not want to present a plan because it would be said that it is a forced solution. So they give Mubarak a plan and say: You go ahead with it, make a mixture of these and other points and cause an internal debate between the Israelis. We will later say yes or no, let the PLO debate, and show some so-called effort to convince the sides with what will be the basis for negotiations. This is a transparent trick that eventually causes a debate here.

[Raz] Knesset Member Hayim Oron of MAPAM [United Workers Party] suspects the Likud of stalling. In the current state of affairs, however, MAPAM would be willing to promote the moves.

[Oron] It seems to us that this is a first opportunity where a Palestinian delegation that would include two deportees could meet with an official Israeli delegation under Egyptian auspices, with an extensive U.S. involvement. Under these circumstances it would be possible to closely examine the opportunity to implement the idea of elections, with all it entails. All efforts should be made to give this move—although incomplete and partial—some chance. We believe that this is the only possible compromise in the Cabinet today, and this one also seems weak.

Ministers Reject 10-Point Plan

TA2009115589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The braces ministers, Sharon, Levi, and Moda'i, have said in Jerusalem that Mubarak's initiative and all its components should be rejected. The three ministers conferred in Deputy Prime Minister David Levi's office this morning. Our party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel reports from there:

[Begin recording] [Deqel] As expected, there were no ideological disagreements in the meeting between Ministers David Levi, Ari'el Sharon, and Yitzhaq Moda'i and a group of Likud Knesset members. The Egyptian initiative should be rejected in its entirety, the three ministers believe. The question is how should they react in the wake of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's response to it. Here, it seems, there is a dispute. Minister Ari'el Sharon, chairman of the Likud Central Committee, suggested that the committee be convened to discuss the initiative. Minister Moda'i disagreed, saying he prefers to lend a hand to the prime minister so that the Likud presents a uniform position. It is preferable that the prime minister remains with us in the national camp, rather than push him into Peres and Rabin's arms, said the economy minister. Leaving the meeting, he expressed the opinion that the Alignment ministers would have to fall in line with the Likud.

[Moda'i] I believe that the Alignment leaders will have to accept and give in to the prime minister's stand. All other talk of them quitting the government and so on is, I believe, in vain. Also, even if they leave, it would not be the end of the State of Israel.

[Deqel] Do you have complaints concerning the prime minister's response to the initiative and all that followed?

[Moda'i] No. My problem is that the prime minister says one thing, and his aides say and do another. For

example. I was surprised to hear that our foreign minister, together with 'Abd-al-Majid, and Secretary of State Baker will hold a meeting in New York to discuss the 10-point proposal. This came as a total surprise to me. [end recording]

USSR Supports Mubarak Plan

TA2109055689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The Soviet Union has expressed support for the Mubarak plan and said it cannot agree to the Israeli initiative without knowing what will happen at the final stage of the plan. This was made clear in Washington last night by a senior Soviet official, Gennadiy Tarasov, at a meeting with Dr Nimrod Novik, adviser to Vice Premier Shim'on Peres.

The Soviet diplomat said the USSR supported the dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians and would encourage the PLO to take part.

Our Washington correspondent says that while in New York for the General Assembly, Peres is to meet with five senior Soviet ministers responsible for economic affairs.

Novik on Peace Initiative

TA2109072489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Drora Perl]

[Text] Yesterday in Washington, Minister Peres' political adviser Nimrod Novik held a clandestine meeting with Gennadiy Tarasov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry Middle East expert. In the conversation, Novik raised the Egyptian 10-point plan and explained the reasons for the Alignment's support for it.

Novik also emphasized that Soviet support for the Israeli peace initiative, even through the Egyptian proposal, will assist in promoting the peace process in the region.

Novik is now trying to arrange a meeting between Minister Peres and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. The proposed meeting is to take place next week, when the two will be in New York.

Today Minister Peres will meet in New York with a delegation of senior Soviet Politburo members to discuss trade and investment.

Arens on Possibility of Meeting With Shevardnadze

TA2109072689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in Los Angeles by Mikha Friedman and Goni Mardor—live]

[Excerpt] [Friedman] Shalom, Minister Arens.

[Arens] Shalom, good morning.

[Friedman] You must have heard about the meeting Shim'on Peres' political adviser is trying to arrange with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

[Arens] I have not heard.

[Friedman] You have not. Well, then, here it is; this is what Novik is trying to do in the United States at present. I would like to ask you: How does the Israeli foreign minister feel when he becomes aware that the Israeli finance minister or vice prime minister's presence is all around him, in front or behind, holding high-ranking political meetings with the Egyptian president, the U.S. President, the Soviet foreign minister? Are you not there for that same purpose?

[Arens] I must admit that Mr Novik did not coordinate that meeting with me; therefore, I can add no information to what you have imparted to me.

[Friedman] As for the other meetings, is it possible that Shim'on Peres is conducting an independent foreign policy?

[Arens] I hope he is not. I hope he adheres to the government's resolutions and guidelines, to the government's peace initiative, and to the roles people have been assigned in the government. [passage omitted]

Shamir's Aides Deny Mubarak Visit Planned

TA2109055189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has refused to react to the remarks President Mubarak made to Israeli correspondents yesterday to avoid exacerbating relations with Egypt and with the president.

His aides have said, however, that he categorically rejects Mubarak's remarks regarding PLO participation in negotiations. The aides added that there is no truth to the Egyptian president's statement that he was willing to come to Israel some time ago, but that Mr Shamir had posed preconditions. This was reported by our correspondent Yo'el Nir.

Rabin Briefs Shamir on Talks With Mubarak

TA1909114189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin arrived at the Prime Minister's Office at 0800 this morning. Dozens of photographers and journalists were waiting outside while the defense minister entered the office carrying only an envelope.

The meeting between the prime minister and the defense minister lasted about 1 hour, during which Rabin reported on his Cairo talk with Egyptian President Husni

Mubarak. Only Shamir and Rabin were present at the meeting. A news blackout has been imposed on the meeting; no information was given on the contents or the atmosphere of the talks. Sources close to both sides said before the meeting that it would be crucial for the continuation of the unity government and the political process.

As we know, Rabin is very interested in going ahead with the Egyptian initiative and in holding a meeting in Cairo with Palestinians. Shamir, on the other hand, is firm in his opposition to any delegation that would include deportees and would come on the basis of the 10 points. It is reasonable to assume that the main focus of discussion between the two leaders was around the three points of agreement reached between Mubarak and Rabin yesterday, especially that involving the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

Frayj Declares Mubarak-Rabin Meeting 'Success'

TA1809183289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj says the Mubarak-Rabin meeting was a success. Shlomo Berger reports:

[Begin recording] [Frayj] Well, when Mr Rabin announced himself that Egypt will announce the names of the Palestinian delegates; that means there is an agreement in principle about that, which is very important.

[Berger] And they also agreed that President Mubarak will help bring about a meeting of Israeli and Palestinian delegations.

[Frayj] Which is extremely important for us.

[Berger] Mr Rabin also said that there would be autonomy as the initial agreement, as an interim agreement; and then it will be interlocked in a timetable for negotiations on a permanent solution. Is that also acceptable to you?

[Frayj] I think there is a general agreement between all parties that there has to be a solution by two stages: an interim solution and a final solution.

[Berger] So in other words, the interim solution of autonomy would be acceptable to the Palestinians?

[Frayj] Well, we need not go into details. We just call it an interim solution and then the final solution. [end recording]

Prime Minister Says No Need To End Coalition

TA2009163989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir, speaking at a meeting of the Likud ministers, said that there is no reason to dissolve the government if it stands firm on its peace initiative. Shamir claimed that if we behave in this manner, we will receive the support of the United States and other international elements.

Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that Shamir stressed that Israel's peace initiative is the only one to be considered and claimed that if Israel adheres to its plan and refuses to negotiate with the PLO, we will preserve unity and achieve peace. During the meeting, Mr Shamir did not comment on the intention to convene the Likud Central Committee so that he might brief members on the issues.

Al-Saftawi Favors Joint Palestinian Delegation

TA1509142289 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Sep 89 pp 1, 7

[Exclusive AL-SHA'B report]

[Text] Gaza—Commenting on the report that mentioned his name among the individuals who left for Egypt to discuss the Egyptian peace plan, As'ad al-Saftawi made the following statement:

To date there is nothing in mind that would encourage me to travel, and there is nothing new in the arena warranting this. The personalities who have traveled may have personal problems that necessitate the journey. No one has asked me personally to make the trip.

If I felt that my visit had a chance in a million to serve the cause of peace, I would not hesitate a minute. I believe that the major disagreement between us and the Israelis is not over the form or source of the plan that can be applied to establish peace, but over a basic point; namely, mutual recognition. If Israel were to agree on recognizing the existence and identity of the Palestinian people, as well as their freedom to choose their leadership, it would become easy for Israel to sit down with a delegation representing these people and approved by this leadership.

But at a time when Israel is insisting that its talks should be confined to individuals who live inside, it is regarded as the main obstacle to establishing peace. As has been reported, the Egyptian Government has presented a compromise proposal on the formation of a joint Palestinian delegation that would bring together personalities from inside and others from the PLO to negotiate with Israel on the plan of holding elections. In my opinion, such a concept is worthy of respect and can become a real starting point in the peace process.

'Arafat Associates, Israelis Hold Indirect Talks

TA1909120589 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Roni Shaqed and Arab affairs correspondent 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Text] Sources from 'Arafat's intimate circle told our correspondent yesterday that "indirect negotiations have

commenced between the PLO and Israel, and this time, as opposed to the past, they are at the most senior level. The defense minister's consent, for the first time, to hear Yasir 'Arafat's stands directly from President Mubarak is a turning point in the Israeli minister's behavior. It also allows some hope for a forthcoming meeting between Israeli and Palestinian delegations to discuss the conditions for the elections," the sources added.

If Rabin indeed accepts the PLO's demands to permit Palestinians from outside the territories participate in the Palestinian delegation, there is nothing to stop the delegations from meeting at once.

Yasir 'Arafat was already briefed on the Rabin-Mubarak meeting last night, but due to the constraints of the Egyptian President's timetable, 'Arafat could not come to Cairo last night as he wanted. 'Arafat is expected to arrive in Cairo in the next few days with his final list of candidates for the delegation.

The heads of the Labor Party recently met with a number of Palestinian notables who figure among the top Palestinian leaders. They discussed the peace process and various ways to move toward negotiations.

Our correspondent learned that the meetings were held under a veil of total secrecy, and the Israelis' intention was not only to swap opinions but to search together for options to promote the political process.

One of the Palestinian dignitaries who participated in some of the meetings said that "90 percent of the issues we raised during our talks with the leaders of the Labor Party were PLO positions." The Palestinian asserted that the impetus for the meetings came from Labor Party officials.

The Palestinian sources pointed out that meetings between Palestinian dignitaries and senior Israeli officials continue all the time, but without any media coverage.

Upon their conclusion, detailed reports of the meetings' contents were sent to the PLO.

Palestinian sources reported yesterday that "dozens of Arab residents from the territories met with Yasir 'Arafat over the past several months. The only novelty about 'Arafat's meeting with Ilyas Frayj is the attendant publicity." The sources emphasized that the security establishment was and remains aware of most of the meetings with 'Arafat, adding that in many cases the meetings were reported to the Civil Administration by the participants themselves.

Arens Returns, Comments on Ties With Hungary

TA1809185389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens is back from his historic mission to Budapest and is now giving a press conference at Ben-Gurion Airport. Over to Jack Katzenell at the airport:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] The foreign minister said he had taken part in a historic ceremony in Budapest: Hungary's decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel before the Soviet Union and the rest of the East bloc has taken a great deal of courage, Foreign Minister Arens said.

[Arens] This is a historic period for Hungary. The Hungarian people and the leadership of the Hungarian people are facing great challenges, great problems; great changes are being made. I think that the decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel should be seen in the context of other decisions that have been taken by the Hungarian leadership, an attempt to bring about a better future for the Hungarian people.

[Katzenell] Professor Arens, now that Hungary has broken the ice, how quickly do you think that Poland, perhaps Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and even the Soviet Union itself will follow this example?

[Arens] Well, I'm really not in a position to give you any intelligent speculations. I have not visited any of these other countries and this was my first visit in Hungary even though I was only there for about 4 hours. But I think it stands to reason that the move taken by the Hungarian Government will make an impression on other Eastern Bloc countries.

[Katzenell] Asked about the current divisions between the Likud and Labor over the Mubarak initiative, Arens replied: If Labor deviates from the Israeli peace initiative, there will be a coalition crisis. [end recording]

Agreement on Communications Signed With Hungary

TA2009173189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] An agreement of cooperation in the field of communications was signed today between Israel and Hungary. Communications Minister Gad Ya'aqobi signed the agreement in Budapest.

[Begin Ya'aqobi recording] The agreement opens the door to wide-range cooperation in the field of communications, particularly with regard to telecommunications, the establishment of joint projects, and international financing for the development of telephone systems. For our part, we are examining the possibility of setting up a consortium made up of Bezeq [Israeli telephone company] and other Israeli communications and electronics firms which would carry out large-scale projects and would raise international financing here. [end recording]

Energy Minister Shahal Offers Deal to USSR

TA2009080189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Report by energy affairs correspondent Gay Rolnik]

[Text] The Energy and Infrastructure Ministry recently decided to search for alternatives for existing oil and coal supplies. Israel currently purchases some 60 percent of its oil and coal requirements from Egypt, Mexico, and Norway, and 40 percent on the open market. With the increased electricity consumption and the establishment of the new power station at Ashqelon, coal requirements for the production of electricity are expected to double.

The USSR has large surpluses of coal and various gases. Therefore, Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal wants to use the current situation to make a deal. The energy minister, who is currently attending the international energy exhibition in Montreal, conferred Monday night with his Soviet counterpart (Yuriy Kuznets). Shahal suggested to (Kuznets) that Israel purchase oil and coal from the USSR in a barter deal. The Soviets showed interest in a solar energy plant built by Loz International in Jerusalem, and the Israeli minister suggested a 400-million shekel barter deal: coal in exchange for a solar energy plant.

As part of the efforts to seek new oil and coal supplies, Minister Shahal conferred last night with his British counterpart, who said Britain was prepared to consider the sale of oil to Israel. Britain had refused to do so in the past.

Among the other issues the energy minister dealt with during his visit to the Canadian exhibition was the construction of nuclear reactors for electricity generation. Shahal announced for the first time that Israel would permit the International Atomic Energy Agency to supervise new nuclear reactors built in the future. It is recalled that Israel has refused to permit the agency to supervise the nuclear reactors in Dimona and Nahal Soreq.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 20 September in a page 2 report by Yehuda Sharoni says "Minister Shahal yesterday called on his Canadian counterpart, Arthur Epp, to discuss buying from Canada a high-technology nuclear reactor."]

PRC Tourism Agency Described as 'Significant'

TA2109064489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Report by Yo'el Nir]

[Text] This time, say sources in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, it may be the ultimate ping-pong game between Israel and the PRC, referring to the historic ping-pong game between PRC and U.S. teams that launched the ties between the two superpowers.

As is well known, the Chinese act slowly and thoroughly. A few months ago, they dispatched a single government tourism company representative to Israel. The man, who was enthusiastically received, looked around, held some talks, and returned home.

A Chinese news agency also operates in Israel. Some of its correspondents studied Hebrew and were later found at the Beijing Foreign Ministry.

It has been learned that recently, a larger delegation of eight government tourism company officials arrived here. This visit, unlike the previous one, was made discreetly. The officials arrived with tourist visas, but have recently applied for permanent resident visas.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem sees all this as a significant development, which may help promote relations between the two countries and perhaps even lead to the establishment of an Israeli bureau in China to serve Israeli tourists there.

By the way, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens is expected to meet with his Chinese counterpart at the the UN General Assembly in New York. This would be the fourth encounter between the two countries' foreign ministers—encounters that are assuming a permanent pattern. The many trees are becoming a forest, Foreign Ministry Director General Re'uven Merhav said yesterday.

Agreement Signed With Egypt on Refugee Transfer

TA1909060889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Israel and Egypt signed an agreement at the beginning of the week to transfer another 100 refugee families from the Egyptian part of the Canada refugee camp in Rafah to the neighborhoods on the Israeli side. Our correspondent reports that during the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, it was agreed that the residents of the Canada refugee camp would be transferred to Israel.

Italy Signs Accord on War Against Drugs, Crime

TA1909125789 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 19 Sep 89 p 12

[ITIM report]

[Text] A cooperation agreement on the issues of combatting terrorism, drug trafficking, and crime was recently signed between the Israeli and Italian police forces. This was reported in the September issue of the monthly police publication THE POLICE SCENE [MAR'OT HAMISHTARA].

The agreement was signed by Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev and Italian Interior Minister Scalerpo [name and title as published].

In the framework of the agreement, it was decided to set up a joint commission that would be headed by the two ministers and include experts. The commission is to meet once a year.

Italian representatives have already visited here. They met with Police Commissioner David Kraus. No date has been set yet for a reciprocal visit to Italy by an Israeli delegation.

South American Nation To Purchase Spy Plane

TA1709145389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by aviation correspondent Zohar Blumenkrantz]

[Excerpt] Israel Aircraft Industries has signed its first contract to supply a spy and early warning aircraft to a South American country. The contract is valued at some $50 million.

This is the Falcon system, which represents a new approach to spy and early warning aircraft. The project's main contractor is Elta in Ashdod. The company is also competing for a $400 million international contract to supply a similar system to Australia.

The Israeli firm's system no longer requires an airborne early warning system with an external rotating dish-type antenna that radiates mechanical energy, such as antennas mounted on AWACS aircraft, but rather an electronically programmed energy release system.

The only thing that can be seen on the exterior of the aircraft, a Boeing 707, are panels that are contiguous with the aircraft fuselage but which function as antennas. Elta's approach enables the release of energy in a specific direction for the shortest period of time for detection and early warning purposes. [passage omitted]

Demonstration Staged for Release of Anne Pollard

TA1709131189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Dozens of demonstrators protested this morning across from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, demanding efforts to release Anne Pollard who is in an American jail for helping her husband Jonathan spy for Israel. The protest took place amid reports on Anne's deteriorating health, and following the recent rejection by an American board for her bid of parole. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 17 September adds: "Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today said that the government is continuing to assist Anne Pollard for humanitarian reasons, but he did not expand on the character of this assistance. Mr Shamir made these remarks to Knesset Members Ge'ula Kohen and 'Edna Solodar, who came to his office on behalf of a group of women who this morning demonstrated in front of the Prime Minister's Office demanding that Anne Pollard be released."]

'Deep Concern' Over Syrian Nuclear Research

TA1709152389 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Sep 89 p A6

[Report by 'Imanu'el Rosen]

[Text] "The Syrians have begun research and development in microelectronics, chemistry, and nuclear energy in the past year," according to an article published by the research department of RAFAEL, the Armaments Development Authority.

According to the article, "Syria is investing huge efforts in nuclear research and development. On an investment of $3.6 billion, it plans to build no fewer than six nuclear power reactors with a total output of 6,000 megawatts."

The report said that the Syrian Atomic Energy Commission, which was set up in 1976, is negotiating with Belgium and Switzerland on the planning and construction of a nuclear power plant. The plant will be built by the Belgians and begin operating in the second half of the 1990's.

The Syrians are simultaneously active in setting up nuclear research reactors with the aid of the Russians and Italians, and have lately begun to conduct surveys to decide on locations.

There is deep concern in Israel in view of Syria's advancement in this field, and the author of the article writes: "At the same time as Israel is drastically cutting budgets for research and development and higher education, Arab countries are investing enormous efforts to advance their science and technology."

Radio Comments on King Husayn's 18 Sep Speech

JN2009191489 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 20 Sep 89

["Observation"]

[Text] Dear listeners: In the speech welcoming the Swedish king to Amman on Monday [18 September], the Jordanian king touched on the situation in the region, accusing Israel of obstructing peace efforts and a peaceful settlement. Instead of giving a true picture of the situation and explaining to his important guest and his entourage the real causes of obstructing the peace efforts, King Husayn preferred to follow the futile traditional course by attacking Israel and blaming it for everything. However, King Husayn did not succeed this time in choosing the occasion and circumstances to launch his attack on Israel. Sweden, whose king is visiting Jordan, is aware of the regional situation and the parties' positions. Sweden, occasionally, embarks on attempts to contribute to the political efforts. Therefore, it is not possible that Sweden will be unaffected by propagandistic and unrealistic statements.

The Swedish king, whose foreign minister—only a few days ago—held talks in Cairo and Amman, knows that

there is an Israeli peace proposal that occupies a central position in the current intensive political activity. The Swedish king, his government, and those who have the least knowledge of regional developments know full well that it is not Israel, but the Arab side, including Jordan, that has prevented the achievement of peace in the region and preferred military solutions to all peaceful plans and proposals for the last 40 years.

Every objective observer also knows that the negative moves and the hostile acts that harm the peace process do not come from Israel, but from the Arab and Palestinian organizations with which King Husayn wants Israel to hold negotiations.

Since the trend toward peace has proved its strength and soundness for the 10 years since peace was concluded between Egypt and Israel, and since the Arab rulers have at last been convinced of the futility of military solutions, it would be better for King Husayn and other Arab rulers who are interested in settling the conflict to avoid the methods of negative propaganda. The should also reinforce mutual confidence and remove the fears and doubts left by years of war and high tensions. The struggle for peace needs a clear, quiet atmosphere, not an atmosphere spoiled by statements and acts that are contrary to a true desire for peace.

In his speech, King Husayn blamed Israel because it refuses to hold negotiations with the PLO despite what he called daring and responsible decisions adopted by the organization last year. Here, we do not want to ask the Jordanian king about his confidence in Yasir 'Arafat's organization nor about his regime's confidence in this organization and its intentions. These matters can be weighed by King Husayn and his government. However, everybody knows that when Israel refuses to negotiate with that organization it does not do so to obstruct peace efforts, but because it realizes and believes that this organization, which was established to remove the Israeli entity through violence, terrorism, and destruction, cannot be a party to peaceful negotiations or a partner in a peace process.

Out of its concern to continue the peace efforts, Israel proposed to the concerned Palestinians to choose their representatives to peace talks through free and fair elections. But, if this Israeli plan is not to the liking of the Jordanian king or others, and if there are some people who prefer to hold negotiations with 'Arafat's organization in particular, the Israeli Government will act and determine its steps in light of its historical responsibilities to guarantee the security, safety, and future of the State of Israel and its people. The Israelis—regardless of their party and ideological affiliations—do not differ on this. If the Israeli political arena occasionally witnesses discussions on the peace process, these discussions are not about fundamental principles, but on the details and methods that are more successful in achieving and guaranteeing peace. The debate under way in Israel is like past debates: it will find a solution and reach its end within the framework of the democratic Israeli system. And within this Israeli democracy, Israel's positions and steps will be defined. As usual, they will express the opinions of the majority of the people in Israel.

Report Says Husayn Could Return to Talks

TA2109083189 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin objects to the inclusion of the two exiled Palestinians, Muhammad Milhim and Akram Haniyah, in the Palestinian delegation for negotiations with Israel. Rabin claims that Milhim and Haniyah are self-proclaimed PLO members and that they were deported following acts of incitement and subversion.

At the same time, the defense minister continues to support Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's proposal to include deportees in the Palestinian delegation, although the minister's condition is that they be neither PLO members nor involved in terrorism.

It was learned yesterday that in the meeting between Rabin and Mubarak, the Egyptian president said that King Husayn had told him that if a political process is launched, he will return to the framework of negotiations with Israel. [passage omitted on Likud ministers meeting]

CPI Rises 1.2 Percent During Month of August

TA1509122189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] The consumer price index [CPI] rose 1.2 percent in August. Salaried workers will receive a cost-of-living adjustment [COLA] of about 3 percent in their salaries to be paid in early October. Our correspondent Menahem Friedman points out that the CPI figure was 50 percent higher than the Treasury's forecast.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar said the level of price hikes proves that a COLA agreement is vital. Mr Qeysar made these remarks to our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch. Ya'aqov Shamay, the head of the Likud faction in the Histadrut, said government-initiated price increases mainly affect low-income groups.

Air Force Bombs PFLP-GC Bases in al-Na'imah

TA2009135489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1330 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Israeli Air Force [IAF] planes have attacked terrorist targets near al-Na'imah in Lebanon, north of al-Damur. The targets were hit, and all our planes returned safely. The sites that were bombed served as launching bases for terror operations within Israel. The bases belonged to Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC].

Our military affairs correspondent, 'Amos Har'el, points out that this is the 12th time the IAF has bombed terrorist bases in Lebanon this year. The targets near al-Na'imah were already attacked from the air this year on 21 June. On 9 December 1988, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] raided the area, and an IDF soldier and several dozen terrorists were killed in the battle.

IDF, SLA Cannons Shell Terrorist Targets

TA2109095089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] cannons last night shelled terrorist targets north of the security zone. This was reported to our correspondent Hayim Hecht by UNIFIL [UN Interim Forces in Lebanon] headquarters. The shelling lasted all night long.

The Hizballah organization maintained that its men fired four katyusha rockets at the security zone last night.

Death Toll Reported

TA2009061189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Over the past year in the security zone in south Lebanon, 180 terrorists have been killed, 230 wounded, and 27 caught. During the same period, 12 Israeli soldiers were killed and 31 injured. Official military sources also told the Voice of Israel that out of 33 attempts to infiltrate into Israel, less than 25 percent succeeded.

Defense Minister Rabin said yesterday that any Lebanese peace plan should take into account the security needs of Israel's northern border. Rabin was talking to reporters during a routine visit to the security zone.

Violence, Strikes, Curfews in Territories

TA1709124689

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 17 September, in a report by Ori Nir and Eytan Rabin on page 2, reports that "eight residents have been reported wounded by gunfire in 15 and 16 September incidents in the West Bank. According to Arab sources, 31 locals were wounded in the Gaza Strip throughout the weekend in al-Nusayrat refugee camp, Rafah, the Zaytun neighborhood near Gaza, and in Khan Yunus."

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 17 September carries a report by Mikhal Sela' on pages 1 and 2 stating that according to Nabulus sources, "at least 11 local residents—among them women over 50—were severely beaten inside their homes when troops raided residences in the northern mountain area of the town." The report adds that "four people in Dayr al-Balah were shot and wounded, and two shooting casualties occurred in al-Nusayrat and one in Gaza. A 15-year-old boy who was wounded Thursday had his left eye taken out yesterday, according to Gaza hospital sources."

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 17 September in a related report by Dani Rubinstein, Dani Tzidqoni, Muhammad Khalilah, and ITIM on page 5 adds: "On Friday, 15 September, the security forces imposed a curfew on the village of Battir and conducted initiated operations in 11 villages in the Tulkarm District. Extensive initiated operations were also conducted in al-Shati' and Khan Yunus in the Gaza Strip." The report further states that "the Halhul school for girls, which was closed by the Army about 1 week ago, was reopened on 14 September."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 17 September, in a page 2 report by Uri'el Ben-Ami and Ayelet Mazor, reports: "An empty Israeli car was torched in Hebron on 16 September, after which a curfew was imposed on the district and suspects were rounded up. In Ramallah, the office of a local who had urged residents to pay their taxes was torched. In Bayt Sahur in the Bethlehem District, the office of Dr Nuayr al-Awwash, who was suspected of collaborating with Israel, was set on fire."

In an article on pages 1 and 4 of 'AL HAMISHMAR by Pinhas 'Inbari, Dalya Shehori, AFP, and ITIM on the contacts between Arab elements concerning the Egyptian 10-point plan, the paper reports: "A leaflet of the Abu-Jihad Battalions, a Fatah-affiliated organization, was yesterday disseminated in Nabulus. The leaflet carries a sharp attack on the supporters of 'Arafat, whom the leaflet lists as the designated representatives in the future Palestinian delegation. According to the leaflet, the Palestinian people will enact justice on those people who steal the uprising's funds and lead a life of luxury in hotels at its expense. The leaflet names Ilyas Frayj, Faysal al-Husayni, Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, Ghassan al-Shak'ah, Ziyad Abu-Zayyad, and Sari Nusaybah as the members of the delegation. This is the first time any Fatah source has reported names of candidates for the delegation."

Curfew Extended; Strike Called

TA1709104289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] this morning imposed curfews on most of the refugee camps in Judaea and Samaria in addition to the curfew imposed yesterday on the Tulkarm refugee camp. The curfew imposed on the refugee camps in the Nabulus area is still in effect. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the curfews are meant to prevent disturbances.

The HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement] today called for a general strike to be staged to commemorate the massacre of Sabra and Shatila. Our correspondent notes that the Unified National Command of the Uprising, which supports the Fatah, has slated a strike for tomorrow separately from the religious extremists.

which indicates tension between the two main bodies leading the intifadah [uprising].

A curfew is in effect this morning on the Dayr al-Balah refugee camp. It was imposed after riots took place in the camp. Very few Gazans left for work in Israel this morning.

General Strike Marks Massacre

TA1709171389 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Report by 'Ido Shargil from the West Bank and Roni Sofer from Gaza]

[Text] The seventh anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre was proclaimed by the Unified National Command of the Uprising as a day of general strike, and locals were exhorted to disrupt order. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] imposed a preemptive curfew on most refugee camps in Judaea and Samaria. These places thus joined the three refugee camps adjacent to Nabulus, which have been under curfew for more than 2 weeks now; and the Tulkarm refugee camp, which was the site of violent clashes with the IDF last night that left a local resident dead and four others injured. The towns of Nabulus and Ramallah were declared closed military zones. All in all, however, no unusual incidents were noted in Judaea and Samaria today, even though the general strike was universally observed with the exception of the schools, where studies continued normally.

Most inhabitants of the Gaza Strip heeded the HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement] call for a general strike today to mark the seventh anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre during the Lebanon war. As a result, departure for work in Israel this morning was very sporadic. It turns out that despite the economic pressure, Arab residents employed in Israel fear the threats by the supreme Islamic organization in the territories. Some of these workers, who knew about the planned general strike today, failed to return to their homes in the Gaza Strip for the weekend. Others, who were wary of encountering masked individuals on the strike day, left for Israel last night.

In contrast to HAMAS, the Unified National Command of the Uprising declared another day of general strike tomorrow. It wishes to revive the struggle against the entry permits into Israel, a struggle that has subsided drastically over the past 2 weeks. According to the IDF spokesman's reports, the flow of laborers who leave for their work places in Israel and who seek the magnetic cards issued by the Civil Administration has grown. By the end of last week, the IDF had issued more than 65,000 such cards to inhabitants of the Strip. Residents of the Gaza Strip admit that general strikes severely slash their income and jeopardize their jobs in Israel. Many of them prefer to risk breaking Israeli law by spending the night inside the Green Line than contend with the violent strike forces.

3 Soldiers Injured in Gaza

TA1709180489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Three IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers were injured by rocks today during severe disturbances in the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Roni Sofer reports that the incidents occurred in Khan Yunus, Gaza, and the al-Shati' refugee camp. The three, who are serving their regular military duty, sustained slight injuries and were treated at Barzilay Hospital in Ashqelon. They were later discharged from the hospital and sent back to their units.

2 Hurt in West Bank Stonings

TA1809054989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpt] An Israeli was slightly injured last night after stones were thrown at his car near the village of 'Azzun in Samaria. He was treated at the hospital for particles of glass in his eye and released. A bus driver on the road to Qiryat Arba' suffered slight scratches when the vehicle was stoned near Halhul. Settlers and KAKH members fired in the air and smashed windows of Arab cars and houses in the area. Settlers in Judaea and Samaria yesterday reported many incidents of stone throwing and the erecting of barricades.

Youths in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Silwan threw stones last night at a Border Police patrol and blocked the road. The border policemen dispersed the group with tear gas and rubber bullets. No one was hurt or arrested.

A car belonging to a local shaykh was torched last night in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of al-Tur on the Mount of Olives. Police are investigating. [passage omitted]

Update on Strike, Riots

TA1809202589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpt] A general strike was observed in the territories today to mark the Sabra and Shatila massacre. There were riots in some places. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that in the al-Burayj refugee camp in the Gaza Strip a border policeman sustained slight injuries when hit by a rock. Two al-Shati' refugee camp residents were hurt by soldiers' gunfire. Gazans maintain that the number of casualties is actually higher. A firebomb was hurled at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol in the Jabalyah refugee camp. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. In the al-Mughazi refugee camp another Molotov cocktail was thrown. No one was hurt and no damage was caused there either. [passage omitted]

Most Curfews Lifted

TA1909112589

[Editorial report] Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 19 September, in a report on page 2 by Uri'el Ben-'Ami, Ayelet Mazor, and correspondents in the Jordan Valley and the north, says that "according to Arab sources, 20 West Bank residents were wounded in the course of demonstrations" yesterday and that "Gaza hospitals reported treating 20 residents who had been slightly wounded by Army gunfire in the course of disturbances."

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 19 September in a report by Joshua Brilliant on page 12 on yesterday's incidents in the territories adds that "the Southern Command spokesman reported two firebombing incidents—one in Jabalyah, the other in al-Mughazi—but neither caused injuries or damage."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 19 September reports that Bayt Sahur Mayor Hanna al-Atrash was "severely beaten last night during a fight that broke out between several residents of the town and other locals suspected of collaboration with Israel." "Several hundred residents responded to the beating by burning down two houses belonging to the family that attacked the mayor."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0800 GMT on 19 September reports that "today the Army lifted all the curfews on refugee camps in Judaea and Samaria, except for the Tulkarm refugee camp."

Man Dies in Clash With Army

TA2009060989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] In the Gaza Strip, 21-year-old Ahmad Mansur was killed last night in a clash with Israeli soldiers. Residents say four others were wounded in the incident which the Army is investigating.

In Gaza city, a border policeman was injured after being pelted with stones and he was taken to hospital. And on the road passing Gaza city, a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli car. No injuries or damage were reported.

In the Samarian village of Buruqin, a Palestinian wanted by the authorities for 1 year was wounded yesterday in a clash with Army soldiers. Twenty-four-year-old 'Isam Masad is suspected of killing another Arab and attacking two others because he believed they were helping Israeli officials. Masad was also one of the heads of the shock committees in the Buruqin area, according to the Army spokesman.

A Molotov cocktail was hurled last night in East Jerusalem at the home of a resident of the Arab village of 'Isawiyah. The firebomb exploded but did not cause injuries or damage. Investigators are looking into the possibility that the resident whose house was attacked may be accused of cooperating with Israel.

Curfew Imposed After Stoning

TA2009173589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier was severely injured when struck by a stone in the head in Bayt Jala. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the soldier was traveling in a water tanker which was pelted with stones. The soldier was hospitalized in the Hadassah En Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem. He is currently being operated upon.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1705 GMT on 20 September adds that the "Army imposed a curfew on the area of Bayt Jala."]

Fatalities in Occupied Territories Reported

IDF Figures Disputed

TA2009095989 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 20 Sep 89 p 8

[Report by Orit Zrubavel]

[Text] On Monday, 18 September, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported 483 Palestinian fatalities in the occupied territories. The figure includes only those killed by IDF gunfire.

According to HA'OLAM HAZE's reckoning the number of Palestinian fatalities stands at 616.

Palestinian sources, on the other hand, report 749 fatalities according to the following breakdown:

—537 by soldiers' and settlers' gunfire;
— 80 by asphyxiation;
— 52 from beatings and electrocution;
— 80 from other causes.

115 Children Die in Uprising

TA2009124489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The Israeli branch of the International Association for Childrens' Rights expressed its concern over the increase in the number of children killed during the intifadah [uprising] in the territories. Dr Menahem Horowitz, the association's ombudsman, told reporters. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

The Israeli branch of the International Association for Childrens' Rights bases its charges on data gathered by Betzelem, the Israeli information center for human rights in the territories. According to these figures, 115 children up to the age of 16 have been killed since the start of the intifadah. Of greatest concern, said Dr Horowitz, is that the percentage of children among the casualties is increasing. Between January and July, it was 28 percent; in August, 46 percent; in comparison to 15 to 20 percent beforehand. We know that events do not occur in a vacuum and that there is no IDF [Israel

Defense Forces] policy of attacking children, but we must call on the Army authorities to cut to a minimum the number of child casualties. [passage omitted]

There were several questions Dr Horowitz did not answer, such as: Does not the level of casualties reflect the level of participation by children in disturbances and clashes with soldiers, and what role do children play in the intifadah? The association also does not ignore the wounding of Jewish children. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Sources Say 100 Deported to Jordan

TA1509124389 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Uri'el Ben-'Ami, Ayelet Mazor, and agencies]

[Excerpt] The Israeli authorities have deported some 100 women and children from the West Bank to Jordan under the veil of darkness. This was reported yesterday by Palestinian sources. The women and children have been staying in Judaea and Samaria with visitors permits and were deported by the authorities after those permits expired.

The Palestinian sources further reported that the same procedure was used in all instances: A female Israeli officer, escorted by soldiers, would knock on the door after midnight and tell the husband that his wife must prepare for immediate deportation. The women and children who were not registered as permanent residents in Israel were then taken in local taxis, escorted by Army guards, to one of the Jordan bridges.

Colonel Ra'anan Gissin, an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman who was asked to comment on these reports, responded: "It sounds like sheer nonsense. When we want to deport someone, we do not do it at midnight. We tell him: You have 24 hours to leave the country."

Lieutenant Olivier Ropowitz, a spokesman for the Civil Administration in the West Bank, admitted, however, that there is truth to the reports.

"This is done during the night because often they do not wish to return to their countries or because they want to contact the authorities to renew their permits," the spokesman said. [passage omitted]

Soldier Jailed for Not Serving Near Nabulus

TA2009061389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Reserve Staff Sergeant Nir Perelson has been sentenced to 4 weeks in jail for refusing to serve in the Nabulus area. Perelson is a 27-year-old resident of Jerusalem.

Seven reserve soldiers are now in jail for refusing to serve in the territories.

Two Jordanians Captured Crossing Border 17 Sep

TA2009190989 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] A short time ago, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman released the following announcement: An IDF unit on a routine patrol south of Sedom early last Sunday morning captured two Jordanians who had come with the intention of attacking an IDF patrol. The two were armed, but offered no resistance when they were captured. It has been learned that one of them is a Jordanian Army soldier, while the other is a teacher from the Amman area. They were captured after they had walked a long distance and were on the verge of exhaustion. An investigation has revealed that they did not belong to any terrorist organization.

IDF Responds

TA2109092089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Sep 89 pp 1, 12

[Report by defense correspondent Kenneth Kaplan]

[Excerpts] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol captured two armed Jordanians who infiltrated Israeli territory south of Sedom before dawn on Sunday. The IDF released the story for publication only last night. [passage omitted]

A senior IDF source said this week that the dramatic rise in the number of incidents has caused concern that there may be a loosening of discipline within Jordanian army ranks. It is not clear, he said, whether this lack of discipline was associated only with Palestinian elements in the Jordanian army or was a more widespread phenomenon.

The source expressed concern that Israel might be witnessing the beginning of deterioration in the Jordanian army, but added that for the time being that army was still well-disciplined by and large. [passage omitted]

Swedish Minister, King, Queen Continue Visit

Prime Minister Meets Andersson

JN2009114889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Amman — His Excellency Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir received at his office this morning Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson. Present were Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Ibrahim 'Izz al-Din, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

During the meeting, they reviewed the most recent developments in the Middle East, efforts to establish peace in the region, and the means to achieve a just and permanent settlement to the Palestine question.

The prime minister reviewed with the Swedish prime minister bilateral relations between Jordan and Sweden and the means to promote them in the various fields in the interest of the two friendly countries.

Prince Hosts Swedish King

JN2009201089 Amman Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] His royal highness the crown prince met at his office today His Majesty King Carl Gustaf and Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden. The crown prince reviewed the political and economic background of the conflict in the Middle East region. Prince Hasan spoke about the difficult living conditions of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation and the grave consequences of the Israeli colonization policy. The crown prince explained Jordan's economic adjustment policies and the country's role within the Arab Cooperation Council and within the framework of cooperation with other Arab, regional, and international levels.

King Receives Andersson

JN2009200989 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] His majesty the king received at the Hashemite Royal Court this evening Sweden's Foreign Minister Sten Andersson in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the region, particularly the Palestinian issue, the Lebanese crisis, and the Iraq-Iran conflict. His majesty asserted that the Palestine Liberation Organization, the PLO, and the Arabs at large have offered all that is required to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region and that Israel should reciprocate. The conflict in the region, his majesty noted, can only be resolved through the convening of an international peace conference to be attended by the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all involved parties, including the PLO.

Mr Andersson paid tribute to the tireless efforts his majesty has been making since 1967 to reach a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Swedish Minister Interviewed

JN2009200089 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Interview with Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson by television reporter Samar Dahmash in Amman; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Dahmash] So, what were the main issues and topics you discussed here in Jordan and how fruitful do you think they are for the peace process?

[Andersson] Yes, very fruitful. I've had many fruitful, constructive talks. So, I had last year before we started the work. And, so I've had now. And, it is natural. Jordan was the first country of the Arab countries to choose a moderate line and has suffered a lot from that heavy criticism, but has gained. So, there are all Arab countries, and the PLO is behind the moderate line now. And, I think that we can be very near the next step. And that will be a very important step in the peace process.

[Dahmash] You talked about a new phase in the peace process. What exactly do you mean by that?

[Andersson] What I mean is that the two parties—the Palestinian people and the Israeli people—must talk directly to each other.

[Dahmash] The last visit to Egypt by Rabin caused or widened the split in the coalition government. How do you foresee the future of the peace process under this circumstance?

[Andersson] I have some ideas, but I won't say it openly. It is time now for silent diplomacy. And I think that there is a process going on in a positive direction, also, inside Israel. I am a friend of Israel and of the Palestinian people. And, I have many friends in Israel. And, I know that there is a positive movement. And, I think that the outcome of the discussions in Israel, also in the government, can be very positive.

[Dahmash] Do you have any idea about how the Palestinians are going to participate in this meeting? Is the PLO part of it?

[Andersson] The Palestinians from the occupied territories and Palestinians from outside must have a chance to participate in the talks. And how the delegation is composed, who the delegates will be there, that is not a question. And, it is up to others to give you an answer.

[Dahmash] While these diplomatic moves are taking place, I guess the people in Palestine are suffering and the Israeli occupation army is killing not less than one person every single day. Do you think there can be a combined international effort to stop that while a peace

solution could be achieved? And what do you think of the Israeli measures in the occupied land?

[Andersson] Yes, we have condemned what is happening there since many years. And we build our positions on international law. And the international law says that it is not allowed to occupy another country. And the violence is not allowed in the Geneva protocol. So, they are acting against international law. And, that's why the international community, the United Nations, must condemn what is happening there.

Andersson Discusses Talks

JN2009141889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Amman—Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson has described his talks with Jordanian officials as constructive, comprehensive, and useful, indicating that his visit to Jordan is taking place at a time when the Middle East region is witnessing important and positive developments toward peace in the region.

Andersson, who was speaking at a news conference at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel this morning, valued Jordan's policies highly and said: Through its sensible and firm positions, Jordan has reaffirmed the soundness of its political perspective, as Jordan was among the first states to recognize UN Resolution 242 and worked diligently to advance the peace process, eliciting numerous criticisms by so doing. However, the states and parties which used to criticize Jordan have now become supporters of the Jordanian position. This confirms the soundness of the moderate stance adopted by the Jordanian leadership.

Andersson called on Israel to take the proper course leading to peace in the region and added: Israel cannot continue to live and exist without establishing peace with the Palestinians. He added that two important steps have so far been taken on the road to peace in the region; namely, the resolutions adopted by the Algiers session of the Palestine National Council and the launching of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. He added that a third step is now required; that is, a dialogue between the Palestinians and Israelis. He voiced the hope that such a dialogue would be launched this fall. He indicated that the ball is in the Israeli court, and that a favorable Israeli response is required to the positive stands taken by the Arab states and the PLO.

The Swedish foreign minister expressed the belief that the peace process can be launched through a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. In such a dialogue, the Palestinians would be represented by a delegation made up of Palestinians from within and without the occupied territories. Such a dialogue is to be followed by the convening of a UN-sponsored international peace conference with the participation of all parties involved in the conflict and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, he added.

He went on to say that the attainment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East requires international guarantees. He expressed the readiness of his country, which maintains good relations with all parties, to do its utmost to help the peace process succeed.

Andersson described the 10 points announced by Egypt as a suitable framework for launching the peace process. He condemned the Israeli repressive measures in the occupied Arab territories and said that they are considered crimes according to the Geneva convention. He reiterated his country's rejection of the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories. He stressed the need to see Israel withdraw from these territories to help achieve the desired peace.

Peace Process Reviewed

LD2009165189 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Now to the Middle East. Prospects are good for the possibility of direct talks between a Palestinian delegation and the Israeli Government. This was said by Foreign Minister Sten Andersson at a news conference this morning in Jordan's capital, Amman. Sten Andersson's visit to Jordan is connected to the state visit of the Swedish Royal couple and takes place at a time when Sweden again plays a prominent role in the peace process of the Middle East. Here is a report from Amman.

[Correspondent] Foreign Minister Sten Andersson came directly to Amman after meetings in Cairo with Egyptian President Mubarak and PLO leader 'Arafat. Since Mubarak recently put forward a proposal with explanations on Israel's plans on Palestinian elections in the occupied areas, new life has been breathed into attempts to reach a peaceful solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people. According to Sten Andersson, the peace process is in an intensive period that offers hope for the future. The foreign minister has implied that the United States wil play a key role and that Sweden's efforts will again prove useful.

Sten Andersson talks about three steps: the first when the PLO recognized Israel and renounced violence a year ago; the second when the United States and the PLO opened a dialogue with each other, resulting from, among other things, Sweden's efforts; and now it is time to take the third step. So what exactly is that third step?

[Andersson] The way it looks now, it could be [words indistinct] or it could be direct talks between a Palestinian delegation and the Israeli Government, where it will be discussed how to organize what, and what the process will look like when the final stage in this process will also be taken up.

[Correspondent] What are the biggest stumbling blocks and what looks hopeful?

[Andersson] What is decisive now is the discussion going on in the Israeli Government; the ball is there. Otherwise I think it is clear.

[Correspondent] Can you say something of Sweden's role at this stage?

[Andersson] No, that should neither be exaggerated nor underestimated. Whether we can play a role depends on the fact that we have this unique position that only a few other countries have: to be able to talk in a trustful way, openly and frankly with all the parties in the process. Also, we are met with enormous confidence, not least from the United States, and, on the other side, from the PLO and Egypt

[Correspondent] And from Israel?

[Andersson] Yes, also from the Israeli side, even though it is not as heavy from that side, but I have a feeling that it will increase. I am an old friend of Israel, and they know that.

Paper Welcomes Renewed Lebanon Committee Efforts

JN1709095489 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 17 Sep 89 pp 1, 13

[Editorial: "The Newest Plan to Rescue Lebanon"]

[Text] Whatever changes prompted the higher Arab tripartite committee to resume its duties to solve the Lebanese crisis are of no interest to us. The important thing is that the panel has resumed its work, holding a meeting of the foreign ministers of the three member countries in Jeddah, and come up with a new plan to end the fighting in Lebanon.

Observers notice that the committee has relied on a different mechanism to enter the heart of the Lebanese matter and push toward a solution. It appointed the assistant secretary general of the Arab League chairman of a Lebanese security committee charged with supervising the cease-fire, observing the coastline and shipping, lifting the sea blockade, opening Beirut airport, and stopping the mutual media campaigns.

We do not know how Lakhdar Ibrahimi will perform his duty and on whom he will depend to form the Lebanese security committee; nor do we know to what extent the fighters will respect the head and members of the committee. Nevertheless, we believe that the higher Arab tripartite committee has come up with a plan that can stop the bleeding of the parties involved in the Lebanese internal dispute.

It is important that the security committee, backed by the Arab tripartite committee, successfully effect a cease-fire, observe the coastline, prevent arms from reaching the parties to the conflict, lift the sea blockade, and open Beirut airport so that the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies can meet on 30 September, which is the date set by the higher Arab tripartite committee.

Arab League Assistent Secretary General Lakhdar Ibrahimi is expected to proceed to implement the tasks entrusted to him as head of the Lebanese security committee. We hope that the higher Arab tripartite committee, the foreign ministers, and the security committee will successfully guide the sinking and burning Lebanese ship safely to the shore.

We supported and still support the unity of Lebanon's people, government, and sovereignty. We provided the higher Arab tripartite committee with all possible support in its immense pan-Arab task. We hope the committee will meet the high expectations of the emergency Arab summit, overcome all obstacles and hindrances which might stand in the way of its great task, and succeed in the end to bring peace and reconciliation back to fraternal Lebanon.

'Awn Insists on Foreign Armies' Withdrawal

PM2009152189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Sep 89 p 3

[Unattributed interview with military government head General Michel 'Awn in Beirut; date not given]

[Text] [Interviewer] Is there an agreement on a new a cease-fire mechanism?

['Awn] There are hundreds of incidents and battles in the Lebanese war which end with a cease-fire and the termination of military operations. And any peace efforts must proceed from a cease-fire, the lifting of the blockades on ports, and the opening of crossing points; otherwise we would be putting the cart before the horse, or falling into the trap set by people seeking to abort the Arab initiative. Those who are setting conditions and trying to impose them on us think that we have lost the war, but that has not happened. In fact the opposite is the case. We do not accept occupations or foreign armies. Nor do we accept that Lebanon should be shared among the regional powers. And there is no justification for any foreign army's presence on a single inch of Lebanon.

[Interviewer] Have you been informed of such a mechanism?

['Awn] Such a mechanism must include three elements: The Arab element or the international element in addition to the Lebanese element and the Syrian element—that is, all the parties to the conflict in Lebanon; otherwise it would lack effectiveness. The formation of a Lebanese-Lebanese committee, proposed by some quarters which do not want a solution, is designed to portray the conflict as an inter-Lebanese conflict, and that in itself serves the armies which are present on Lebanese territory.

[Interviewer] If a cease-fire fire is implemented, what will be the future of the "liberation war"?

['Awn] We will have proceeded on the liberation road through peaceful means. So if we do not achieve liberation, fire will break out again.

[Interviewer] Do you agree to reforms and elections?

['Awn] When the problem concerns sovereignty and independence, then it becomes improper to talk about reforms and presidential elections. We must know for which people we are making reforms and for which country we are electing a president, and we must differentiate between changing the law of a municipality and that of a republic. And we must know whether we are a free state or a province. Anyhow, there is a long reform program—long not in terms of its duration but in terms of its points. I have launched more than one appeal for inter-Lebanese dialogue, and I am completely sure of our ability as a people to reach agreement.

[Interviewer] And what will happen if the efforts to help Lebanon stumble?

['Awn] Then other events and developments—and probably other interventions—will be imposed. I can confirm that Lebanon cannot accept the role of an incinerator into which the waste of wars and crises are thrown. From now on that homeland will be explosive and its voice will echo loudly. It is in everyone's interests to correct the great and costly mistakes. We do not accept that the big eat up the small. And relations must be based on respect, cooperation, and understanding.

[Interviewer] What about the Lebanese Army's unity? Is there anything that would unite it?

['Awn] Of course. The Army is not a political tool. It is a Lebanese security tool, and its elements are affected by internal problems and interact with the Lebanese people. And they are united. I can confirm that they have the same position on the need to impose the Lebanese state's sovereignty over every inch of Lebanese territory and on the need to make the reforms in an atmosphere of freedom.

[Interviewer] And what if the solution were linked to your removal from the decisionmaking position?

['Awn] General 'Awn's fate should be decided by the Lebanese people and Gen 'Awn himself. And no one from outside can take a decision on that fate. The maneuvers designed to disrupt public opinion must be abandoned. I say this, in the knowledge that I am ready to sacrifice my own life for my people. It is my daily life and I share it with everyone. I have no personal demands. When matters reach the stage of presidential elections, then the problem of sovereignty and independence will have been resolved and my aim will have been achieved.

[Interviewer] And what does Gen 'Awn want now?

['Awn] That positions be more courageous and more practical. Everyone must look at the pictures of the burned or drowned children in their minds if they cannot see them with their eyes. The false pretexts of occupying parts of Lebanon are no longer acceptable. What Lebanon is demanding is a clear right, and the Arab League must succeed in its task, because failure would mean a disaster for us—that is, in terms of its role and image.

'Awn Accuses U.S. of 'Exploiting' Hostages Issue

NC2009191589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] In an interview granted to the Cairo magazine AL-MUSAWWAR on 6 September, to be published tomorrow, Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn emphasized that he is seeking an Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis and that he is trying to resolve the situation within this framework. However, he added, the Syrian regime does not want the Arabs to mediate in the Lebanese problem.

Gen 'Awn pointed out that the Syrians link their departure from Lebanon to the departure of the Israelis from the border strip, where the security zone has an international nature. This confirms, Gen 'Awn added, that the Syrian regime wishes to internationalize the Lebanese crisis, whereas I am seeking an Arab solution.

In another development, Gen 'Awn accused Washington of exploiting the issue of hostages to serve its political goals and justify its silence over Syria's scandalous acts in Lebanon. He also accused Washington of bringing pressure to bear on Iraq to prevent it from sending ammunition to the Lebanese Army in its battle against the Syrians. Gen 'Awn added: Iraq, which responded to our request and supported us politically and materially by sending us ammunition, could not deliver all the ammunition because of U.S. and other pressures.

Al-Huss Phones Sfayr, Sa'adah, Sham'un 20 Sep

NC2009160089 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss received Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi at 0900 today. They reviewed the latest developments in Lebanon in light of the tripartite Arab committee's statement issued in Jeddah last Saturday.

The prime minister also held telephone conversations with Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Butrus Sfayr, Phalangist Party leader George Sa'adah, and National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un. They discussed developments in the situation, particularly with regard to facilitating the Arab envoy's task of bringing about the success of the Arab plan for peace in Lebanon.

Prime Minister al-Huss was also in touch with Arab envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi.

Birri Leaves for Tehran; Junblatt Said To Follow

NC2109093089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY reports from Damascus that Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri went to Tehran last night for an official visit during which he will meet with senior Iranian officials.

According to still unconfirmed reports, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has left for Tehran on a similar visit.

Soviet Envoy Urges Support for Arab Committee

NC2009125389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Soviet Ambassador Vasiliy Kolotusha has expressed hope that matters will move toward relaxation, and solutions will be found for both security and political issues.

After visiting Maronite Patriarch Mar Nasrallah Butrus Sfayr, he said the Arab committee's move had prompted him to call on the Lebanese leaders for instructions from his country to find out the opnion of the influential men in Lebanon on the Arab plan and to urge them to deal positively with the Arab committee's efforts.

Kolotusha said an historical opportunity now exists and must not be missed. He pointed out that the Arab countries had devised their proposals after in-depth contacts with regional and Lebanese parties and consultations with major powers, adding: I do not imagine there will be a similar opportunity.

He expressed his belief that the Lebanese and Middle East issues cannot be separated right now.

Asked if the Soviet Union is exerting pressure on Syria, Kolotusha said: We try to contact all parties with influence in the Lebanese arena at Lebanese, regional, and international levels.

Peace Activists Arrive in Juniyah From Cyprus

NC2109090089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English 0800 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A ship from Cyprus carrying foreign pacifists and medical equipment arrived this morning in Juniyah. The ship is carrying some 20 young French, Swiss, British, Polish, and American volunteers.

Members of the team had tried to break through the blockade at the beginning of the month but shooting stopped them and forced them to sail back.

Humanitarian Aid Ship Arrives at Beirut Port

NC2109083789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A ship carrying people of various nationalities as well as 70 tons of medical and food supplies arrived at the port of Juniyah this morning to help the cause of peace in Lebanon and the world and to help the people of war-ravaged Lebanon regain their rights.

Among the ship's passengers are General (Thomas Saul) and his wife, head of a British nurses union; (Joan Andrews), head of a U.S. antidrug society; leader of the group, (Pierre de Vaut), general counselor of (Hotsabwa) Province [not further identified]; and an official in charge of humanitarian aid in the (Clause) region [not further identified].

The vessel, flying the Lebanese flag, came under Syrian artillery fire while heading for Juniyah.

The ship's passengers are scheduled to visit B'abda Palace at 0830 today, after which they will go to the Sayyidat al-Hasm Monastery.

Gunmen Assassinate Deputy al-Qadiri, Aide 21 Sep

NC2109085989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0805 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Unidentified gunmen have assassinated Islamic Grouping member Deputy Nazim al-Qadiri and one aide and seriously wounded another.

According to internal security sources, Deputy al-Qadiri left a barber shop opposite the Goodies supermarket in Verdan and got into his car at 1015 today. Four gunmen got out of a brown Mercedes with a German license plate that was parked nearby and immediately opened fire at Deputy al-Qadiri's black Mercedes, with license plate No 53. Deputy al-Qadiri and one aide were killed instantly and a second aide was seriously wounded and taken to the American University of Beirut Hospital where he is undergoing surgery.

The sources added: After committing their crime, the four gunmen fled in their car, firing into the air to facilitate their escape.

Members of the internal security and civil defense forces immediately went to scene of the crime, removed the bodies, and closed roads leading to the area.

Other security sources said that a person wearing jeans and carrying a pistol shot Deputy al-Qadiri as he was getting into his car, and then fled.

According to the latest information we have received, the aide who was killed is internal security forces Sergeant Sami 'Azmi Sulayman. The wounded person is 44-year-old Sami 'Itani.

Islamic Resistance Claims Attack on Qiryat Shemona

NC2009205689 Paris AFP in English 2006 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Beirut, Sept 20 (AFP)—Islamic Resistance, the military wing of the pro-Iranian movement Hizballah, fired four Grad rockets on a settlement in northern Israel Wednesday, causing casualties, the group said in a statement here.

It said the rockets were launched from the Israeli-imposed "security zone" in southern Lebanon and landed on Qiryat Shemona.

"The settlement was hit and ambulances were observed rushing to the scene," the statement said.

There was no immediate confirmation of the attack from Israel.

Israeli Planes Attack al-Na'imah Area 20 Sep

NC2009125989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1253 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Dear Listeners. We have just received a report that Israeli warplanes raided al-Na'imah hills area a few minutes ago and are still flying over the area. The extent of losses is not known yet.

4 Injured in 'Raids'

NC2009171489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out raids in the al-Na'imah hills along the al-Shuf coast at 1545 and 1615 this afternoon. The Israeli warplanes dropped time bombs that exploded on a delayed basis. It is reported that four persons were injured in the raids, which also damaged the home of Nabihi Mundhir and caused other material damage.

Further on Raid

NC2009174689 Paris AFP in English 1730 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Beirut, Sep 20 (AFP)—Israeli warplanes pounded a Pale base south of here Wednesday, injuring two pro-Syrian Palestinian fighters, security sources reported.

Four fighter-bombers fired five missiles on a position held by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) in the hills overlooking the village of al-Na'imah, 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of here, sources said.

(In Israel a military spokesman confirmed that Israeli jets had mounted a raid south of Beirut, hitting PFLP-GC installations "that had been used to launch terrorist operations against Israel."

(All planes returned safely from the mission, he said.)

Four of the missiles crashed into the PFLP-GC base, scattering debris up to a kilometer away, while the fifth struck the nearby home of a Lebanese family but did not explode and caused no casualties, according to security sources.

Two hours after the mid-afternoon attack, which injured two PFLP-GC militants, a pilotless Israeli reconnaissance plane flew over the area, drawing anti-aircraft fire from the Palestinians. [passage omitted]

Resistance Repulses Israeli Advance Toward Maydun

NC2109070189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from the struggling western al-Biqa', a Zionist enemy force advanced toward the Maydun Hills at approximately 2300 yesterday after intensive shelling which began at 2030.

A Zionist infantry force of some 50 soldiers tried to reach the area but Islamic resistance fighters heroically engaged the advancing enemy force with artillery and heavy machineguns, forcing it to retreat. The enemy casualties are not known but the heavy artillery fire which covered the Zionist withdrawal and the retaliatory shelling of the area until 0400 today indicate that the enemy suffered huge losses. The valiant Islamic resistance fighters suffered no casualties.

Resistance Issues Statement

NC2109074589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The Islamic resistance has issued the following statement: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. If you revert to your sins, we shall revert to our punishment; and, we have made hell a prison for those who reject the faith [Koranic verses].

At 1930 yesterday, Zionist enemy artillery heavily shelled the outskirts of Maydun and Jabbur, providing cover for an Israeli advance toward the struggling village of 'Ayn al-Tinah. During the Israeli infantry advance, the Zionist enemy was surprised by Islamic resistance groups stationed in the area. A clash ensued in which heavy artillery, machineguns, and RPG's were used. The Islamic resistance fighters inflicted losses on the advancing enemy force and forced it to retreat. The enemy covered its retreat by shelling the Islamic resistance positions in 'Ayn al-Tinah, Mashgharah, and the Maydun Hills. However, no casualties were reported among the resistance fighters.

On the anniversary of the lord of the martyrs, Imam Husayn, may peace be with him, the Islamic resistance fighters pledge to the late imam, Ayatollah Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and to 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic nation, to continue the course of Islamic resistance. Victory comes from God.

Israeli Advance Reported

NC2109080789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] According to security sources, a 200-strong Israeli force advanced toward the town of Maydun this morning and moved 5 km toward Birkat Jabbur in western al-Biqa'.

'Unidentified' Gunboats, Israeli Overflights Noted

NC2009120989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The combat lines at 'Ayn al-Mir, Kafr Falus, and Lib'a were the scene of intermittent clashes between the Popular Liberation Army and Agent Lahd's militia at dawn today. Meanwhile, fire unidentified gunboats cruising off the coast of Iqlim al-Kharrub were fired upon.

A formation of Israeli military aircraft flew over Sidon and Iqlim al-Kharrub this morning.

Several Killed in Israeli-Resistance Clash

NC2109063389 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from the south, a 20-minute clash involving rockets and machineguns took place between resistance fighters and occupation soldiers and their agents near Mount Hermon at dawn yesterday. A number of soldiers were killed or wounded. The agent Lahd militia found two explosive devices on the Sahl al-Dardarah road which leads to the militia's radio station.

According to new reports on the resistance operation in Kafr Killa, security sources claim that five Israelis were killed. The reports indicate that Colonel Dani, the Israeli intelligence officer in Marj 'Uyun who has not been seen for about a month, was killed together with 3 [as heard] other Israeli officers in the suicide attack carried out by Shaykh As'ad Birru on the Tall al-Nuhas-al-Qulay'ah Road in July.

Israeli Activities in South Reported

NC1909114189 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] In the south, Israeli occupation forces have besieged the town of Hula for more than 10 days now. They have been preventing inhabitants from entering and leaving the town in order to force their sons to join Agent Lahd's militia.

Amal Movement issued a statement saying that occupation forces use the excuse that the residents have been cooperating with the resistance fighters, in order to break into and search the houses in Hula and interrogate their inhabitants. In their latest campaign, they took 'Ali Mustafa and Fadl Dahir to the al-Khiyam Prison.

Amal added in its statement that the occupation forces have asked their Agent Mahmud 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Ayyub to stop work on a charity hospital which the town's inhabitants began constructing 2 months ago. Ayyub conveyed these instructions to the inhabitants, telling them that whoever needs medical services should go to Marj 'Uyun or Bint Jubayl hospitals.

According to information from Yarin, an Israeli force stormed the town and carried out a search campaign. The occupation authorities also established a new position near the town of Bani Hayyan and constructed a 10-meter wide dirt road linking the town with the new position. They also bulldozed large areas of olive trees. The Israeli forces are reinforcing the crossing points to the border strip by setting up cement blocks there in order to prevent suicide operations.

A joint Israeli-Lahd force carried out a search campaign near the town of Shab'a. A source in the United Nations

Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] said that a Lahd militiaman named Nidal drove his car to Ibil al-Saqy, where the Norwegian contingent's command is located, and tried to go through. When challenged, he drew his automatic weapon and fired several shots in the air in a threatening way. He then returned to where he had come from.

Meanwhile, resistance fighters inflicted losses on Israeli occupation forces and Lahd's militiamen in Wadi al-Saluqi, Kawkaba, and al-Dardarah.

Israeli Movements, Reinforcements Monitored

NC1909154489 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpts] A Zionist force stormed the Tallusah township in the occupied strip at 1330 today. According to the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, an infantry force supported by 10 vehicles and 2 Merkava tanks entered the town and conducted an extensive search operation. [passage omitted]

In another development, the occupation troops transported seven armored vehicles mounted on tank carriers to their positions on the 'Ayn Qinyah and al-Ahmadiyah hills in the eastern sector yesterday. Five vehicles were taken to 'Ayn Qinyah and two to al-Ahmadiyah. In the meantime, Zionist units kept a close watch on all the roads leading to the area.

In addiition, movements and visits to the occupied area by Zionist officers have been monitored. The officers arrived from occupied Palestine aboard military helicopters to inspect Zionist and agent positions and issue instructions. [passage omitted]

Fighting With Syrians Flares on Mountain 20 Sep

NC2009164589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] While intensive political contacts were being held at more than one level, the Syrians caused the situation on the mountain combat lines to flare up today. Fighting began at 1535 on the Suq-al-Gharb-'Alayh and Duhur-al-'Abbadiyah-Dahr-al-Wahsh combat lines. The clashes became more violent at 1645. Shells have also fallen in other areas, particularly 'Arayya, al-Kahhalah, and their outskirts.

Limited clashes have also been reported on al-Hadath combat line. [passage omitted]

The fighting is still raging on the Duhur-al-'Abbadiyah-'Alayh and Monte Verde-Dahr-al-Wahsh combat lines. The al-Kahhalah and 'Arayya areas are now coming under artillery and mortar fire from the Syrian emplacements in 'Alayh and Duhur-al-'Abbadiyah.

Syrian Tank Destroyed

NC2009173689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The Syrians caused the security situation on the mountain combat lines to flare up when they directed rocket and shellfire at the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Dahr al-Wahsh at 1530. The Syrian bombardment became heavier as of 1645, when the 'Arayya, al-Kahhalah, B'abda, al-Hadath, and al-Jumhur areas were pounded from Syrian artillery emplacements in al-Shuwayfat. [passage omitted]

An Army source said that the Army returned the fire, destroying a T-62 tank. The tank was deployed in Duhur al-'Abbadiyah and was being used in the bombardment of the Army positions in Dahr al-Wahsh and al-Kahhalah. The source added that a Syrian soldier manning the tank was killed and three others were wounded.

1 Killed, 6 Injured

NC2009185789 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Syrian shelling of the 'Arayya-al-Kahhalah area has been continuing all evening. Citizen Khalil Darwish Bajjani was killed and six others were injured in the shelling. Meanwhile, intermittent clashes involving automatic weapons, rockets, and mortars are taking place on the Science College, al-Laylakah, and al-Hadath lines. Several shells have fallen on al-Hadath and adjacent areas.

Fighting Reported on Beirut Combat Lines 19 Sep

NC1909192089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] An artillery shell was fired at al-Hadath at 2050 this evening. Fighting involving the use of rockets and machineguns erupted on the Galerie Sim'an and Mar Mikha'il combat lines at 2100.

Kasrawan, Jubayl Areas Shelled

NC1909200689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The coastal area between Kasrawan and Jubayl came under heavy bombardment for 20 minutes from 2220 tonight. The sources of fire were Syrian artillery and rocket launchers deployed in al-Mughithi and 'Uyun al-Ruhban in upper al-Matn. A shell fell in the outskirts of al-Ashrafiyah at about 2230.

Meanwhile, there is tension on the Galerie Sim'an and Bsaba-al-Ma'rufiyah combat lines. Bursts of machinegun fire and rockets are being exchanged.

National Front Artillery Confronts Maritime Target

NC1909125389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Military Operations Room of the Lebanese National Front has announced that its artillery dealt with a maritime target which tried to approach the Juniyah Port at 0315 today.

Traditional Lines Quiet; Maritime Targets Attacked

NC2109083689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the traditional lines in the capital, suburb, and the mountain. The lines of Ra's al-Nab' Sodeco, and Primo are under intermittent sniper and RPG fire which reaches inner residential areas. The areas of al-Janah, al-Maramil, al-Ramlat al-Bayda', the military beach, and al-Manarah were shelled between 0145 and 0200 this morning.

In the meantime, security sources in the eastern area said that shells have fallen on the Juniyah and Jubayl Ports.

The Army Command Guidance Directorate has issued the following statement: A maritime target appeared off Tabarjah coast at 0200 this morning. Our artillery fired upon it to prevent it from reaching ports in the eastern area to implement a decision banning arms and ammunition coming to the area.

The operations room of the Lebanese National Front issued a statement this morning saying that the front's artillery engaged a maritime target which tried to approach Juniyah Port at 0100 this morning.

Casualties Claimed in Resistance Operation

NC1909182289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The martyrs Mahmud al-Hujayri and 'Ali Salim group of the Lebanese resistance has detonated an explosive device under an Israeli military convoy on the main road between the former headquarters of the South Lebanese Army radio and al-Dardarah spring, west of al-Khiyam township. A troop carrier was destroyed, a jeep was burned out, and two vehicles belonging to Israeli intelligence collided. Several members of the convoy were either killed or wounded.

Israeli troops later conducted an extensive search operation, using military helicopters. The search covered the environs of al-Khiyam, Marj 'Uyun, Tall al-Nahas, Ibil al-Saqy, and al-'Urqub.

16 January Group Claims Attacks Against Syrians

NC2009105689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The 16 January Organization has claimed responsibility for two operations against the Syrian forces. The first operation was launched against the Quarantine checkpoint at Tripoli Port at 2300 last night. The second operation targeted a checkpoint manned by Syrian special units near the Ibn-Sina School in the al-Qubbah, resulting in many casualties among the soldiers manning the checkpoint.

Al-Shar' Returns After Signing Memo With Iran

JN2009171489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Syrian Arab delegation led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and including Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi and a number of officials at the ministries of foreign affairs, planning, economy, agriculture, oil, and construction and building, returned to Damascus this afternoon. Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Commerce Minister ('Abd-ol-Hoseyn Vahaji), Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, a number of Iranian officials, the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran, and the embassy staff saw the delegation off at Tehran airport.

In a statement to reporters at the airport, Al-Shar' expressed his satisfaction with the results of his talks and visit to Iran, which will help develop bilateral relations.

In a similar statement, Dr Velayati described the talks that Al-Shar' and his delegation held with the Iranian officials as fruitful and said they dealt with the situation in the region, bilateral relations, and the ways to promote them.

At the end of the Syrian delegation's visit to Iran, a memorandum of understanding related to promoting bilateral economic, trade, technical, and scientific cooperation was signed. It was signed for Syria by Foreign Minster Faruq al-Shar' and for Iran by Foreign Minster Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Joint Statement Issued

JN2009171889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] A joint statement was issued following the visit of Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his delegation to Iran.

The statement says that upon invitation from Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' officially visited Tehran on 18-20 September 1989, leading a political and economic delegation which included Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foeign trade, and a number of officials from the ministries of foreign affairs, planning, economy, agriculture, oil, and construction and building.

Iranian President Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Mr Faruq al-Shar', who conveyed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's warm greetings and sincere wishes on the occasion of his election as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Syrian and Iranian sides held two rounds of official talks during which they agreed to form joint cooperation committees in industry, oil, agriculture, finance, trade, and education, and in scientific, technical, and consular cooperation.

At the end of the talks, a memorandum of understanding was signed which included means of developing Syrian-Iranian relations in various fields.

Al-Shar' and Velayati also held talks in which they discussed a number of topics. Several of their points of view were identical, especially regarding the Zionist entity and its sly aggressions.

Syria and Iran also shared identical opinions on supporting the valiant intifadah [uprising] in Palestine and the rights of the Palestinian people to repatriation, self-determination, establishing their independent state in Palestine, and continuing the struggle to liberate all Arab territories from the Israeli occupation.

The Syrian and Iranian sides expressed their backing for efforts to establish a cease-fire in Lebanon, lift the sieges, open Beirut international airport, form a Lebanese security committee to supervise the cease-fire, and search ships to prevent the entry of arms and ammunition so that the Lebanese parties can start their march of national accord and approve the necessary political reforms of the Lebanese Constitution to guarantee the rights of the majority of the Lebanese and equality among all the citizens.

The two sides also expressed their support for the Lebanese people's struggle to achieve their independence and preserve their Arab identity and national unity.

The two sides also expressed their full support for the national and Islamic resistance of the Lebanese people in their efforts to liberate southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation.

In addition, the two sides studied the efforts of the UN secretary general to end the Iraq-Iran war. They reaffirmed the need for the immediate and full implementation of Security Council Resolution 598.

Within this framework, the two sides reaffirmed the necessity of implementing the first article of the resolution, which stipulates immediate withdrawal to internationally recognized borders.

Iran expressed its appreciation for Syria's firm and principled stand. It also affirmed the historic importance of President Hafiz al-Asad's forthcoming visit to Iran.

Syria also expressed its appreciation of Iran's principled stands and continuous confrontation of the colonialist powers in the world.

Afghanistan

Rebels To Intensify Attacks on Airports

BK2009161889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1608 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Islamabad, Sep 20 (AFP)—A top Afghan rebel commander has warned all foreign airlines against using Kabul and other airports in Afghanistan, as Muslim guerrillas step up rocket attacks on airfields.

"We have already warned that we can no longer be responsible for their safety," Commander Abdul Haq said in a statement received here Wednesday.

Abdul Haq, who is active in Kabul Province, said that dozens of Soviet planes carrying weapons were landing at Kabul airport daily and that these weapons were used against mujahidin and civilians of Afghanistan.

Mr. Haq said that therefore Kabul airport and other air facilities in Afghanistan were "legitimate military targets. We will not only continue our operations on these facilities, but will increase them," he added.

Mr. Haq, who fights under the Hezb-e Eslami faction led by Yunis Khalis, issued a similar warning in July. He said then the mujahidin "cannot be responsible for damages caused to the foreign aircraft due to our attacks."

The warning follows a September 13 rocketing of Kabul airport during which a United Nations plane was slightly damaged and a Soviet Antonov aircraft loaded with weapons was blown up.

10 Killed in Rebel Missile Attack on Kabul

LD2009170189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Pakistani-linked extremist criminals launched U.S.-made surface-to-surface missiles against residential areas in Kabul city today, as a result of which 25 of our compatriots were martyred or wounded. BAKHTAR's military section reports that extremist criminals, in line with the foul plans of U.S. and Pakistani state terrorism, fired 13 surface-to-surface missiles at Kabul city's residential areas resulting in the martyrdom of 10 compatriots including women and children, while 15 others were wounded.

The wounded victims of the incident were quickly taken to the hospital and are under treatment. Heavy material losses have also been inflicted on our compatriots as a result of the missile attack.

Najibullah Addresses 'Defenders of Revolution'

LD2009120289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 18, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) and general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, (PDPA CC), met in the Gulkhana Presidential Palace with a number of defenders of revolution today.

The revolution defenders while holding photos of Najibullah, banners of the PDPA CC, and slogans of peace enthusiastically received their leader.

'Abdul Wali Khan, chairman of the Awami National Party participated in the session as well.

In this gala meeting while Farid Ahmad Mazdak, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan (DYOA) and General 'Abdul Haq Ulumi secretary of the Supreme Council for the Defense of the Country were present, Daud Razmyar, secretary of Kabul city party committee spoke in detail on heroic works and activities of the defenders of the revolution.

Then, President Najibullah in his speech spoke on political-military situation in the country and appreciated the activities of the said defenders in their struggle against the enemies of the country and people. He pinpointed the role of the revolution defenders, as brave guards of party unity and vanguards of peace and security in the country as well as preservation of independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the RA.

Najibullah indicated on the achievements and epics of the said defenders, members of PDPA, Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) and other social organisations who bravely took part in the defence of Nangarhar Province and other corners of the country and considered it as a vivid example of party unity and militancy of the Afghan sons and members of the PDPA and social organisations.

President Najibullah added that the devotions demonstrated by the soldiers of revolution in defending the country and strengthening the entrenchments of the defenders of Jalalabad, Khowst, Qandahar and other areas have changed to an example all over the country and I appreciate your activities.

He emphasized that "you have not only defended the party objectives but also the national interests, the man's life, the territorial integrity and the country's independence". You have proved that the party's interests can be only sought in the context of the national interests. Defending national interests is the best criterion of your patriotism.

Your duty has not ended yet and you as the true sons of the country should not keep away even for a moment from serving the society. Defending the highways, transfer of primary goods to the people, assistance to the families who have suffered from rocket attacks, ensurance of the party's unity are all and all the duties which you are faced with, Najibullah stressed.

Najibullah said that the execution of your duties cannot be regarded as an ordinary matter. The successes scored

by the Republic of Afghanistan in the national and international arena in the past seven months is inherent in the successful achievements of the Armed Forces and the product of the party's unity.

Later on, four soldiers of revolution on behalf of others delivered their speeches in which they stressed that they as the loyal members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) and Democratic Youths Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) will spare no efforts for strengthening and expansion of the ranks of the soldiers of revolution, keeping of party unity, defence of independence, national sovereignty as well as support of national reconciliation policy and peace initiatives of the state of the Republic of Afghanistan aimed at ensurance of peace in the country. They also assured President Najibullah that they along with the Armed Forces of the country would struggle against extremists, as well as U.S.-Pakistan and Saudi mercenaries.

Then, President Najibullah awarded Darafshe Soorkh "Red Banner" orders and the "Bravery" medals to a number of the soldiers of revolution.

Najibullah Receives Salang District Officials

LD2009190189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, took part in a meeting held this afternoon at Golkhana Palace of the Presidency by the chiefs and representatives of Salang District, Parwan Province.

The meeting began after the recitation of a few verses from the Holy Koran and then esteemed Najibullah spoke about the ending of fighting in the homeland, consolidation of peace in the country, and the need for maintaining security along the highways.

Esteemed Najibullah said that fighting and fratricide that have been waged in our homeland due to the conspiracies and intervention by the enemies of our homeland have brought about enormous losses of life and material; and the continuation of war will naturally increase the pains and miseries of our people. Therefore, it is the duty of every Afghan and inhabitant to make earnest endeavors for ending the war and for a lasting and durable peace.

Speaking on behalf of the people of this region, Aqa Mohammad Salangi, sub-governor of Salang District, Mowlawi Nur Mohammad, Col Yusof Salangi, and a number of others gave assurances to esteemed Najibullah that they would strive for peace in their respective localities and for the restoration of security along the highways; and they would not allow the robbers to plunder the public property and disrupt the peaceful life of the people.

Correction to Najibullah Jalalabad Speech

LD3008155389

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Najibullah Addresses People, Forces in Jalalabad," published in the 29 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 32:

column one, paragraph one, first sentence make read: [Text] Dear friends, dignitaries and comrades: Allow me to express the best regards and wishes of the state and party leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan to you heroic, unsurrendering defenders of Jalalabad. [applause]

I am happy to speak to you after difficult and hopeful days and months full of responsibility. This meeting takes place at a time when you in ancient Jalalabad have left behind difficult days of war and aggression from abroad and come out of this test with heads held high as the victors. We are proud of all the heroic defenders of the city of Jalalabad. [applause].

This meeting recalls the days and nights of 6 month ago when the whole world was listening to the events and incidents after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces. The extremists and their international supporters predicted hours, days, and weeks until the fall of government of the Republic of Afgahnistan; and the fall of Jalalabad was especially choosen in their plan as the first step.

Extensive attacks were begun on Jalalabad by the extremists, Pakistani commandos and militiamen, and Saudi Wahabi mercenaries who numbered in the thousands. Up to 15,000 rockets were fired at the city and its surroundings. World radio stations reported on the city of Jalalabad every day. The aggressors expected the news of the fall of Jalalabad. Pakistani military forces behind the front lines supplied rocket and heavy weapons fire to the extremists. Extensive supplies of every kind continued for the joint invading forces. While the invaders awaited the seizure of power and the occupation of the city of Jalalabad, your friends, the justice-loving people of the world and freedom-loving Afghans in all parts of the country, were watching your active and manly defence, because Jalalabad is the eastern door of Afghanistan and upholds our country's honor and dignity. For this reason the people of Afghanistan, the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan], the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces, and all our political allies were looking with enthusiasm and hope toward the citizens, elders, dignitaries, ulema and clergy, and brave defenders of Jalalabad. The Jalalabad seige once again proved the unity of fraternal nationalities of Afghanistan. The gallant people of Nangarhar and the armed forces based in this province were never left alone. An awakened and honorable nation, the self-sacrificing sons of all nationalities, tribes, members of the PDPA, the people of other provinces, and all supporters of the government of the Republic of Afghanistan proudly stood by you. [applause]

We are grateful to all the people of Afghanistan for the messages we received about the participation of volunteers from the provinces and cities of Afghanistan during the days of aggression against Jalalabad. And you remember that in the first days of the attack by the joint forces of the extremists and aggressors against Jalalabad, volunteers from Herat, Jowzjan, Laghman, and Kabul practically rushed to the help of their Nangarhar brothers and the defense of the eastern door of our united country, Afghanistan. [applause]

[Najibullah switches to Pashto] It was a great example of unity. For the first time in history, you saw that volunteers from the west came and joined you in the east. This country, this nation, these sons will never be obliterated nor will their history disappear. [applause] Bless the mothers who gave birth to such sons in every part of Afghanistan. They are given these characteristics by their mothers in their clean white milk. They and your sisters called to you:

Pierced with a weapon, you may arrive;

But may the news of your shame not reach me. [applause]

[Najibullah switches to Dari] In the rear areas the people shared with you their bread and water, which they obtained with difficulty. Members of social organizations and the residents of Kabul stood by you for the defense of the territorial integrity of the country by donating their blood. All forces rallied understandingly in this direction in order to defend Jalalabad, for the dignity and honor of Afghans. I express my gratitude to all compatriots who either directly participated in repulsing the aggression against Jalalabad or who by their material contribution took part in the defense of this city. [applause]

At these honorable moments allow me to stand and observe a minute silence of to pay respect to and to pray for the souls of the martyrs of the country and the martyrs of ancient and evergreen Nangarhar. [pause]

The people of... (clearing indistinct passage)

Mujahidin To Search for Missing Pakistan Airliner

BK2009084689 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are to launch a search operation along Pak-Afghan border and other areas to find the missing PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] Fokker plane. This step follows the request by representatives of the relatives of the passengers aboard the ill-fated plane.

Bangladesh

Police Arms Seizures at Dhaka University Detailed

BK2009165789 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The Dhaka metropolitan police, in cooperation with Bangladesh Rifles, today recovered a huge quantity of illegal arms and ammunition in a pre-dawn raid on six residential halls of the Dhaka University. These six halls are Mohsin Hall, Jasiumuddin Hall, Zahurul Haq Hall, Surja Sen Hall, Ziaur Rahman Hall, and Shaykh Mujibur Rahman Hall. The arms seized by the police include 6 rifles, 2 sub-machineguns, 1 7-mm rifle, 1 gun, 2 pipe guns, 1 revolver, 1 pistol, 4 bombs, 2 grenades and a large quantity of ammunition. Some wireless sets and 65,900 taka in cash were also recovered.

The commissioner of the Dhaka metropolitan police, who was leading the raid, told BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA that the raid was conducted in response to a call of the university authorities to free the campus [words indistinct] and improve the law and order situation. He said that police recovered most of the arms and ammunition from the Mohsin and Jasiumuddin halls. Large quantities of sophisticated arms were recovered from the other four halls. He said 34 persons who were involved with several murder cases, including that of Pagla Sahid, have been arrested.

The vice chancellor of the Dhaka University went to the police control room to see for himself the seized illegal arms. He said that students and teachers praised the good behavior of the police during the search.

Home Minister Retired Major General Mahmud Hasan also visited the police control room. He expressed the hope that following the seizure of arms, peace and discipline will prevail in the campus and create a congenial academic atmosphere.

The home minister also praised the metropolitan police commissioner and other officers and forces who participated in the raid.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet committee on law and order met at the prime minister's Secretariat with the prime minister in the chair. The prime minister, who is the chairman of the committee, said that the government is determined to free the educational institutions from illegal arms. He said the nation is not prepared to accept the use of illegal arms in the name of politics.

Awami League Head Opposes Violence, Terrorism

BK2109014889 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Awami League Chief Shaykh Hasina has asked the people to forge greater unity against growing evils of violence and terrorism. She was addressing a rally at the Central Shahid Minar in Dhaka yesterday. Shaykh

Hasina said her party never believed in violence and will continue to pursue constitutional politics to restore democracy in the country.

India

Joint Commission Meeting With China Detailed

BK2109072089 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] India and China have agreed on a series of steps to strengthen bilateral trade and expand economic and technical cooperation. Addressing a press conference at the end of the first meeting of the India-China joint commission on trade and economic relations, the head of the Indian delegation—the commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh—described the meeting as a landmark in the history of Sino-Indian relations. He said that a very good beginning had been made and a framework had been drawn, even though no limit had been fixed for overall trade during 1989-90. He said it was open to both sides to strengthen trade as much as they desired.

Earlier, the minutes of the 3-day joint commission meeting were signed by the heads of their two delegations. The head of the Chinese delegation, Mr Zheng Tuobin, expressed his satisfaction over the meeting and said that the discussions were held in an atmosphere of sincerity and mutual understanding.

A trade protocol for the year 1989-90 was also finalized during the joint commission meeting. Under this agreement, China has agreed to increase and diversify its imports from India to reduce the current trade imbalance for India. It will import nearly 1 million tonnes of iron ore from India during 1989-90. A substantial step-up is also expected in China's import from India of traditional items like chrome ore, tobacco, coffee beans, tea, medium- and short-fiber cotton, and also a variety of engineering products and technology. Among the items that India expects to import from China during the current year are pig iron, raw silk, silk yarn, agricultural products, metals and minerals, pharmaceuticals, and petroleum products. The joint commission has also agreed to explore possibilities of economic cooperation in setting up joint ventures.

The trade protocol comes into force from today and shall be valid till 19 September next year. Both sides have also agreed upon a program of cooperation in science and technology for the period 1989-91.

Later, the Chinese minister of economic relations, Mr Zheng Tuobin, called on the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in the evening.

Economic Meeting With Turkey Begins 19 Sep

BK2009051489 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Indo-Turkish joint committee on trade, economic, and technical cooperation began its meeting in New Delhi today. The commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, is leading the Indian delegation at the meeting. The Turkish side is headed by their transport and communications minister, Mr Cengiz Tuncer.

In his opening remarks, Mr Dinesh Singh emphasized the need to rectify the trade imbalance. Mr Singh also referred to the possibility of cooperation in third country projects.

Mr Tuncer said there is a need to diversify trade by increasing the number of items being traded. Financial cooperation, including the avoidance of double taxation, and cooperation in the power sector, telecommunications, petrochemicals, and agriculture are on agenda.

Protocol Signed 20 Sep

TA2009164589 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1605 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Ankara (A.A)—The fourth term meeting of the Turco-Indian Joint Economic Commission which started Sept. 18 in New Delhi ended today. The two sides signed a protocol at the end of the talks.

Officials said that in a speech during the signing of the protocol, Transport Minister Cengiz Tuncer said that contacts between the two countries' businessmen were necessary to improve bilateral relations.

During the talks focus was placed on exchanging experiences on free trade zones so as to improve bilateral trade. Cooperation possibilities in the fields of hydraulic power plants and petrochemicals were also discussed.

Bilateral Trade To Increase

BK2109044489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] India and Turkey are to step up bilateral trade to the level of about 500 crore rupees annually by 1990. This is part of the agreed minutes of the fourth session of the Indo-Turkish joint committee which ended in New Delhi yesterday. The commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, and the transport and communications minister of Turkey, Mr Tuncer, signed the agreement. Diversification and expansion of trade, exchange of business delegations and cofinancing of third country projects are some of the areas agreed upon. Turkey will provide incentives to Indian entrepreneurs in free-trade zones for opening certain enterprises. Both sides expressed satisfaction on implementation of railway projects in Turkey by Indian agencies and wanted to go further in this direction.

U.S., Pakistan Dilemma on Afghanistan Viewed

BK1909143989 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 8 Sep 89 p 8

[Editorial: "The Afghan Chessboard"]

[Text] The reported U.S.-Pak move to send arms supplies directly to the Afghan guerilla commanders instead of via the seven-party Mujahidin alliance government based in Peshawar, as hitherto, has once again underlined the difficulty of achieving a military solution of the Afghan problem. It has been argued in support of this shift that the persisting differences among the constituents of the alliance—in particular the widened gulf between the Hezb-e Eslami led by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, the late Gen Ziaul Haq's protege, and others—have obstructed effective conduct of the guerilla war. But whether the various field commanders themselves will evolve a united strategy against the Najib government is highly debatable. The treacherous murder of a score of the most important guerilla leaders belonging to Eslami by Hikmatyar's men in the north-east soon after a joint session was held to draw up a new combat plan about a month ago is a sign that mutual mistrust is not limited to the top leaders based in Pakistan but has affected their followers in the hide-outs in the Afghan interior as well. Indeed, the Hezb-e Eslami admission a couple of weeks ago that no less than 300 rebels had recently died in internecine fighting substantiates this.

Another factor of concern to the policymakers both in Washington and Islamabad is the likely connection between at least some of the field commanders and the heroin barons. The latter have had a tremendous clout, especially in southern Afghanistan where poppy is grown extensively. A recent outbreak of fighting between two groups of guerillas was attributed to rivalry among the heroin businessmen. Obviously, the likelihood of U.S. arms finding their way into the hands of the ring leaders in this deadly trade rather than those whose primary objective is to overthrow the regime in Kabul cannot be brushed aside. The issue is bound to figure in the discussions among U.S. congressmen who, since the Jalalabad debacle, have been trying to give a new thrust to the guerilla war.

Gulbuddin Hikmatyar has obviously lost much of his influence over Pakistan's policy-makers since Ms Benazir Bhutto became the Prime Minister. The removal by her of Lt Gen Hamid Gul, the former boss of the Inter-Services Intelligence, has also adversely affected Hikmatyar's fortunes. He is in no position to lord it over the rebel government as he used to earlier, and can no longer hope to get the lion's share of the U.S. weapons. In fact, this is stated to be one of the specific aims of the new U.S.-Pak policy on Afghanistan. But Pakistani sources have said that as the best organised of the rebel groups, his Hezb-e Eslami has already built up a huge stockpile. Besides, Saudi Arabia and Libya are bound to continue to favour him. Hikmatyar, in other words, will not easily surrender his dominant position in the rebel set-up and this itself may cause further trouble within the rebel alliance.

Iran

Rafsanjani Speech to Revolutionary Guard Officials

LD2009170489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0935 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Speech by President Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani at a gathering of Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and Mobilization of the Oppressed officials and commanders in Tehran on 17 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. [passage omitted]

This is the first gathering of commanders of the Islamic Republic Guards Corps [IRGC] and Mobilization of the Oppressed since the demise of His Holiness the Imam of Ummah, the esteemed commander-in-chief. We wish that His Holiness were present among us. The pain of his absence and missing his presence still weighs like a ton on our souls and hearts.

As has repeatedly been stated, the enemies of Islam and the revolution started the war with the preset objective of destroying the revolution, a war that cost dearly the nations of Iran and Iraq as well as the region in general. However, the clear result of that for the world and for global infidelity was that this revolution is immune and consolidated, while its foundations are too firm to be destroyed through foreign attacks or instigations from inside the country. However, nuisances and hostile acts are things that the enemy will not forget in the future. Also, we should not think that by the time Islam possesses its dynamic spirit and its divine mission, infidelity can stay idle against Islam's call and mission. Therefore, the soldiers of Islam, so long as they live, will not abandon their state of vigilance.

In economic terms, the war cost us dear. The country suffered a lot of damage, while delaying the post-revolutionary process of reconstruction for a long time. It also swallowed a great part of the country's assets. Most important of all, it deprived us of a great part of the revolutionary, faithful, and sincere forces, while bereaving numerous families and keeping a large number of people in captivity. Furthermore, those injured and disabled due to the war will have to endure the pain of their disabilities for many years to come. However, we have no doubt that the spiritual impact of the war and the epic that it induced in the hearts of this nation, while fostering many potential warrior talents that existed among our revolutionary nation, as the test that our nation passed before the eyes of history and its Islamic mission, as well as the unique resistance that this nation revealed against the collective entity of forces of global infidelity, and the unique and extraordinary resistance that our popular and armed forces showed, will all provide future generations with something to be proud of, something epic-making. [passage omitted]

If we weigh the positive points of the war—including the military knowledge and the advancements we made in military industries and military readiness as well as familiarization with the enemy's war tactics, and getting to know our friends and foes in the world—against the damage inflicted on us, we can see that we are winners. We think that it is worth it if we postpone our development for a few years for the sake of such achievements that will prove very influential in the consolidation of Islam's history. If we carry out a precise appraisal today after the passage of a year of engagement in war, we can consider the result of the war positive for ourselves. Certainly the Islamic revolution has been made invincible through that war—which we did not seek—while many dangers the enemies once thought of creating for us no longer threaten us, even though every minute and every day we may face the evils of war. However, our nation is confident that anyone who tries to impose anything on us engages in nothing but a futile act, as this nation will continue its path.

Even with the post-ceasefire assessment, we are still victorious. During the war we constantly said that the slogan of peace propagated by our enemy and the statements made by international organs that claimed to seek peace while accusing us of being stubborn in the face of accepting the invitation to peace, were all false. That was because we were aware of the nature of our enemies, while being aware of our nature—that we are no warmongers and were only defending ourselves. However, world propaganda prevented the world from hearing this righteous claim of ours, or if they did hear it, it was conveyed to them in such a way that they could not believe it. They accused the Islamic Republic of seeking to export its revolution through occupying the territory of others and interfering in others' internal affairs.

We constantly said that we did not believe that our enemy was really seeking peace, that we did not believe that the international organs were telling the truth. However, our words found no audience amid the turbulent waves of propaganda waged by Zionist and imperialist news agencies. However, practice was to prove everything, in the same way that on the war fronts our resistance proved everything. If we said before the war that this nation was immune to damage, no one would have believed us. They would have said that a besieged nation facing the wrath of big Satanic powers cannot stay on its feet, a nation that is still not totally in control of its revolution. The war was to prove that we were right. The cease-fire proved that we are the honest ones in our claim to seek peace. When we announced, when our great leader announced that we accepted the cease-fire and the resolution, from then on I cannot find one instance in which we did anything in contradiction to what our leadership announced. You must remember, you esteemed commanders of the IRGC and mobilization, those worrying days after the cease-fire when our people poured into the war fronts due to Iraq continuing its aggression, and when all those forces—which was unprecedented during the course of the war—all those skilled and experienced forces were at the disposal of the commanders, and when our present leader had gone to the fronts. In those days the presence of forces was so great on the fronts that permission for an extensive attack could have been issued. When this was conveyed to His Holiness the Imam, he said: No, we are serious in our declaration of peace and we will not initiate anything. Only defend if they attack. [passage omitted]

Since then, to this day, all the world is beginning to realize that the Iraqi regime, in order to have concessions in the Arvand Rud—for whose sake it started the war—is pushing hard and behaving obstinately to get these concessions. And we shall have, including in the negotiation stages, the same steadfastness we had during the era of the war and the same steadfastness we displayed during the period of our revolution, in order to prove that the Islamic Republic, which does not want any meaningless concessions, will not give any meaningless concessions to the enemy either. This is something that will be proved even if we are delayed for 10 years at the negotiating table and whichever point it reaches, even if it reaches the renewal of war. And still it will be proved that the Islamic Republic, while not coveting the territory of others and not wishing to capture the territory of others, and not having any need for land, is not ready to part with one inch of the land of the Islamic Revolution. And it will push back the enemy to the same point that was set down by the Algerian accord of 1975 between us and Iraq; and if one day we are sure that the enemy does not intend to withdraw, then we shall certainly carry out this task by force.

Of course, we shall make every endeavor and effort, and practice all the tolerance we can to avoid any renewal of war. We know that the two nations have to pay heavily for war and the same applies to the region. We have already obtained the results we wanted from the war. In our defense we arrived at all the things a free nation wishes to achieve and we have no need for a renewal of war. But, certainly, the revolution will not tolerate the occupation of its territories; and this is something that is known to our enemies as well. We shall wait as long as necessary; we shall give any amount of advice and counsel necessary; we shall prepare any amount of means necessary for an understanding and shall show goodwill, just as you can see we are doing, until all the world, and especially the world of Islam—who are our ultimate judges—will understand who has been the warmonger and who is the peace-seeker, and who is the defender and who the attacker. When these issues are elucidated, then the retaking of the territories is very easy for us.

You have yourselves seen the arenas and you should be saying these things before we say them. You would be saying these things in the arenas of action. Of course, in our analysis we feel that in grasping this problem that Iraq, with this situation it brought about for its own nation with this war, all this damage and so much disgrace in the face of history and his own conscience, and so much backwardness and debt and so much mischief and crime which, finally, compelled it to resort

to the ugliest weapon—poison—which it poured over the head of its own nation so as to make us feel pity in our heart, so as to make us understand that if, some day, we push further forward into Iraqi territory—and they knew that we would be entering Iraqi territory in order to rescue the nation of Iraq—they wanted us to realize that at whichever point we entered we would not even see any Iraqis to support. What it did in Halabjah and other places proves in practice for us that it will not leave behind any community to enable us to fight and wage a campaign for its salvation.

Of course, after all this trouble, it is no longer likely that it will engage in trouble again, and it will be left some day in shame, dejection, and dismay. However, all this procrastination which it engages in will have no results for the two nations except loss. I am surprised at how much ignorance and obstinacy govern the minds of the majority of the leaders of the Iraqi Ba'thist Party. They see that this situation of neither peace nor war is imposing a heavy cost on both nations, the two nations which more than any other time are in need of reconstruction, for making up for the past losses, and for solving the problems of their people who have been grappling with these problems for 10 years; yet they are forced to maintain a great part of their forces in a state of readiness and to pay a heavy price for this war preparedness and for war equipment.

Were it not for the obstinacy of the Iraqis, a great part of these expenses would not be necessary, and many of you young people of our country could now be serving your people and yourselves with great resources which you have at your disposal, but now you are forced to remain in the fronts, to be ready, to be in the barracks and continue your training for readiness.

In Iraq the situation is even worse. The pressure exerted on Iraq is much more than the pressure exerted on us. For us, keeping this number of forces on the fronts is to some extent natural. Even in peace time for the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has a population of 50 million, it is not very difficult to keep so many forces in the Armed Forces, the Guards Corps and the Mobilization Corps; but for Iraq, with a population of 14 or 15 million, keeping so many forces in the fronts is a very heavy burden, especially in view of the dependence Iraq has on foreigners for its weapons and resources, and in view of the back-breaking debts it has already accumulated. Apart from all these, there is the human dimension of the issue: so many POWs who are detained in the POW camps of the two countries, all these families of the POWs who are waiting for their children, their husbands and their brothers, and so many MIA's whose families should one day know for certain what has happened to their children. The Iraqi regime is responsible for all these because it is insisting on a clearly wrong point and wishes to ignore a clear agreement, and still the ambition of keeping the strategic heights in the West of our country has got a hold on the deformed minds of Iraqi military men. They are striving in vain for the sake of unattainable goals.

Therefore, at this stage, too, at this interim stage when we also have some difficulties, we regard Iraq as guilty for them. All the Muslims, especially the people of Iran and Iraq, should be clear and know what the issue is and what is happening. In any case, we are forced to maintain our preparedness. My request from you esteemed commanders of the Guards Corps and the mobilisation corps and the esteemed military commanders and other armed forces, the Gendarmerie, the police and others who have been in the fronts, is to maintain your prepredness at a tolerable level. Pay greater attention to training, pay greater attention to your weapons, maintain your fighting capability and readiness in case something happens.

Although the enemy is feeling remorse, even a remorseful enemy that has no capability of deciding for itself may again resort to an action that will again cause it greater remorse. We should, therefore, maintain our preparedness. As your supporters, we will certainly, as you also witness, pay attention to our armed forces in a resonable manner at this juncture. We are also prepared that if again new conditions arise, once again we will cater to the situation as in the past and will give top priority to the war. But we hope such a day will not come about. [passage omitted]

My recommendation to you is that you maintain unity, friendship, and sincerity among you, among the armed forces, and among other security forces; and that now that you have an opportunity you will make a profound analysis of the past record of the war, and analyze points of strength and weakness impartially, so that in the future you can continue your strong points and reject the weak points. I beseech Almighty God for your success, health, victory and divine grace. God's greetings and blessings be upon you.

Daily Views Rafsanjani Remarks

LD2009163689 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 20, IRNA—The remarks Friday [as received] of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Iran's unalterable position in the peace talks with Iraq was considered by the Persian daily ETTELA'AT an important development in the Islamic Republic stance after the ceasefire.

President Rafsanjani addressing the annual gathering of commanders of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) had also stressed that withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from the Iranian territory is a must for which Iran will not hesitate to use military force.

The daily said over the recent years no clearcut response was made to the question whether the country's political leadership would use military force to end occupation of parts of the country. But President Rafsanjani gave an explicit answer to the question.

It blamed Iraq for refusing to pull out from occupied Iranian soil and said Rafsanjani's words were in

response to Iraq's insistence on direct talks before pulling out from the occupied lands.

Despite a stable ceasefire between the two countries over the past year, said the paper, and especially after the efforts of the UN chief failed in Belgrade, signs of escalation of dispute are seen between Tehran and Baghdad both in peace talks and in their foreign policies such as in Lebanon which goes against the stability in the region.

The daily said increasing rivalry exists beween Iraq and Iran in their relations with the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, and their individual shares in oil supply, as well as relations with the Kurds, and the situation in Lebanon as a result of which little prospects exist for optimism over the future of the region.

The Iraqi regime is now facing two alternatives: flexibility in the talks or war.

In this regard Iran is considered to be able to have necessary will and might to tread either way according to Baghdad's choice, concluded the daily.

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Foreign Minister

Al-Shar', Velayati Statements 18 Sep

JN1809161789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran—Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs, accompanied by Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, arrived in Tehran this afternoon at the head of a delegation comprising Diya'ullah al-Fattal, assistant foreign minister; Ahmad Mar'i, assistant agriculture minister; 'Abd-al-Rahim Basiti, assistant planning minister; and a number of directors general at the Ministries of Economy, Industry, Agriculture, Oil, and Planning.

The delegation was greeted by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Economy and Finance Minister Dr Mohsen Nourbakhsh, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Shaykh-ol-Eslam, a number of Iranian officials, Iranian Ambassador in Damascus Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran and the embassy staff.

In a statement to reporters at Tehran airport, Al-Shar' expressed his pleasure as well as that of the delegation at visiting Iran and said: This visit falls within the framework of the strong and deep relations existing between the two countries and the Syrian and Iranian leaders. Al-Shar' added that during the visit the Syrian delegation will discuss with the Iranian side all areas of cooperation and all that could contribute to bolstering and deepening friendship between the two countries. Al-Shar' expressed his gratitude for the invitation extended by Dr Velayati and the Iranian officials to visit Tehran, which will help develop and boost relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

For his part, Dr Velayati described relations between Syria and Iran as profound and strategic, and said: The visit by Al-Shar' and the Syrian delegation comes at special circumstances and is considered an important step along the path of deepening these relations. Velayati added: It is natural that during this visit the various issues of the region will be discussed in general, in adition to discussing bilateral relations. He went on to say: It has become a tradition for the two countries' officials to meet every now and then in order to exchange views on the region's affairs.

Rafsanjani Meets Al-Shar' 20 Sep

LD2009115289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', who is visiting Tehran at the head of a high-ranking economic-political delegation, met with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this morning.

According to the Central News Unit, this meeting was also attended by Velayati and Vahaji, ministers for foreign affairs and commerce, respectively, of our country; Al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade of Syria; the Foreign Ministry's deputy minister for African and Arab Affairs; the ambassador of Iran in Syria; and the Syrian charge d'affaires in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Faruq al-Shar' conveyed warm greetings from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its support of Syria. He emphasized: The cooperation of the two Muslim and fraternal countries of Iran and Syria has had a great impact on all international and regional arenas. He added: We have achieved much success and have made our enemies despondent because of their failure to achieve their objectives.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani then expressed pleasure at the forthcoming visit due to be made by Hafiz al-Asad to Tehran, and he considered that this trip will demonstrate the profound ties between the two Muslim and fraternal countries of Iran and Syria. He referred to the new conditions prevailing over the region and expressed hope that this trip will have positive effects in strengthening cooperation among regional countries and in promoting the aspirations of the rights of the people of the region.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: We enjoy the support of the people of the region; our words with regard to Lebanon and Palestine are the words of the people and are acceptable to the people of Palestine and the Muslims of the world. Our word on the Persian Gulf issues is: National sovereignty for every country and rejection of foreign interference; and this is the same thing that the people want and support.

The president said: With regard to the question of Afghanistan, too, the just word belongs to us and our friends and we are preventing the presence of U.S. and foreign agents in Afghanistan. We insist that the people

of Afghanistan should take their destiny into their hands without foreign interference. Referring to the need for unstinting support for the people of Palestine and Lebanon, he added: The movement of the people of Lebanon and Palestine has brought about a good opportunity for greater struggle toward the achievement of happiness for people and for the rejection of colonialism and aliens from the region.

Al-Shar' Sees 'Positive Results'

LD2009120189 Tehran IRNA in English 1118 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 20, IRNA—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', who just concluded a three-day visit to Tehran, said here Tuesday that Iran and Syria enjoyed sound relations and held common stands in their struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism and they both support the liberation movements.

This cooperation, he said in an interview with IRNA, has led to positive results both regionally and internationally.

Al-Shar' described his visit to Tehran as another step toward further consolidation of bilateral relations. The visit is also to pave the way for the forthcoming visit of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Tehran, he told IRNA.

More on imminent visit of President Al-Asad, he said that it will be a historical meeting and promote the bilateral relations to the highest level ever.

Al-Shar' said that in his talks with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati they have pledged support for the Islamic uprising of the Palestinians in occupied territories and hold a joint stance towards Lebanon issue. He stressed that the two countries support Lebanon's independence.

On situation in Lebanon he said that the recent outcome of the Arab tripartite committee on the Lebanon—cease-fire, lift of siege and formation of security committee on Lebanon to stop influx of Israeli and Iraqi arms to Lebanon—are supported.

More on the same subject he said the tripartite committee plan has received the approval of national and Islamic forces in Lebanon and many countries of the world with the only exception being the illegal government of Michel 'Awn, the Iraqi regime and the Zionist regime.

He added that the recent meetings of the Lebanese national and Islamic forces in Tehran and Damascus has led to failure of the plan of 'Awn, Iraq and the Zionists to partition Lebanon.

Velayati Interviewed on Visit

LD2009175389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by "our colleague" Ja'fari on 20 September in Tehran concerning the visit by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to Iran—recorded]

[Text] [Ja'fari] Mr Velayati, please give us some details about the issues discussed and the contents of the letter of understanding signed between the two countries a few hours ago.

[Velayati] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. His Excellency Faruq al-Shar' and His Excellency Mr Al-'Imadi, esteemed ministers of foreign affairs and foreign trade of the Syrian Arab Republic, and their accompanying delegation paid a successful visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran and had discussions with their Iranian counterparts, His Excellency Mr Vahaji and myself, and the rest of our colleagues in the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and some other ministries of the Islamic Republic of Iran, such as the Oil Ministry; and achieved positive results.

In fact, these talks and meetings were to pave the way for a visit by His Excellency Mr Hafiz al-Asad, the esteemed president of the Syrian Arab Republic, who will pay a visit to Tehran in the near future at the invitation of His Excellency Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. In the note of understanding that was signed there were talks and discussions regarding commercial exchanges, economic and technical cooperation, as well as consular cooperation and providing facilities for meetings among ordinary people as well as officials of the two countries. The frameworks for these were set down in the note of understanding signed by His Excellency Faruq al- Shar'. We had fruitful discussions about bilateral relations, regional and international issues, especially in connection with Lebanon and Palestine, and the cooperation that has existed between the two countries in the past and which will exist in the future.

The Tehran-Damascus axis so far has had a decisive role as an important strategic axis in the region, and in the future, too, it will have an important, and we can even say a more important role, than in the past in this sensitive part of the world.

'Text' of Iran-Syria Statement on Visit

LD2009184989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 89

["Text" of joint statement on visit to Iran by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', issued simultaneously in Tehran and Damascus on 20 September]

[Text] At the invitation of Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, paid an official visit to Tehran

from 18-20 September at the head of a political-economic delegation composed of Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, and a number of officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Planning, Economy, Agriculture, Oil, Development, and Construction.

During this visit the Syrian Foreign Minister was received by His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At this meeting Faruq al-Shar' conveyed warm greetings and sincere congratulations from His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, on his election as President of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In the course of two official meetings, the Iranian and Syrian sides also agreed on the formation of committees for joint cooperation in scientific, oil, agricultural, financial, commercial, cultural, scientific, technical, and consular affairs. At the end of talks, the two sides signed a note of understanding on how to expand Iranian-Syrian relations in various fields.

Meanwhile, ministers Al-Shar' and Velayati discussed current regional affairs and Iranian-Arab relations, and expressed their satisfaction at the improved climate of Iranian-Arab relations, especially with the Persian Gulf littoral Arab states. They emphasized the importance of continuing the improvement in these relations on the basis of mutual respect in a way that would serve the interests of the Iranian nation and the Arab nations and for peace in the region. The two sides stressed the continuation of support for the struggle against the occupying Zionist regime.

The Iranian and Syrian views were identical regarding support for the rights of the Palestinian nation for returning to their land, deciding their fate, and the establishment of an independent nation in the entire Palestinian lands and the continuation of the struggle for the liberation of all Arab lands from Israeli occupation. The two sides also supported the efforts made for the establishment of a cease-fire in Lebanon, the elimination of barricades, the reopening of Beirut International Airport, and the formation of a security commission in Lebanon for supervising the establishment of a cease-fire and the inspection of ships for the prevention of the importation of weapons and ammunitions. In that case, the Lebanese sides will be able to start a move toward reaching a national agreement and the implementation of necessary political amendments in Lebanon's constitution in a way that will guarantee the rights of the majority of the Lebanese nation and equality among all Lebanese. The two sides expressed their support for the struggles of the Lebanese nation for strengthening the independence and the safeguarding of the Islamic-Arab nature and national unity of that country. The two sides expressed their complete support for the Islamic and national resistance of the Lebanese nation for the liberation of southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation.

The two sides discussed the efforts of the UN Secretary General for ending the Iran-Iraq war, and stressed the need for the speedy and complete implementation of Security Council Resolution 598. Within this context, the two sides emphasized the necessity of the implementation of Article I of the resolution, which is about the speedy withdrawal to recognized international borders.

The Syrian side expressed its appreciation for Iran's principled positions and that country's continuous steadfastness and resistance against world arrogant powers. The Iranian side, too, while expressing appreciation for the principled and permanent positions of Syria, emphasized the historic importance of the visit to Iran by Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Paper Calls Al-Shar' Visit 'Important'

LD2009145189 Tehran IRNA in English 1224 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 20, IRNA—An Iranian daily Wednesday regarded important the visit of Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to Tehran "as it takes place at a time when the Arab League three-man committee on Lebanon is trying to find a solution to the Lebanese problem."

Al-Shar' arrived here Monday at the time French First Deputy Foreign Minister Francois Scheer was here to talk with Iranian officials on bilateral issues as well as on Lebanese situation.

France has taken the side of Christian Army Commander Michel 'Awn in its war against Lebanese Muslims during the last few months.

The TEHRAN TIMES' editorial noted "the tripartite delegation has visited Syria and it is believed that Damascus accepted the proposal of the Arab committee."

"With this background the talks in Tehran are important and may have far-reaching results," the paper believed, but added "what will be the final result is difficult to say as in the past several attempts were made to bring peace to the Mediterranean country which has been at war for over 15 years to no avail."

The English-language daily set assured "with the spiritual influence Iran enjoys in Lebanon, Tehran can play an effective role if other involved parties are really sincere on the issue of Lebanon. [sentence as received]

"At this stage, however, it is difficult to say exactly what the outcome will be from Tehran talks but we are sure that Iran will definitely help all those who want a solution based on justice," it concluded.

France To Settle Financial Disputes, Expand Ties

LD1809122389 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18 IRNA—Visiting French First Deputy Foreign Minister Francois Scheer in a meeting with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Monday

announced the Paris government's decision to settle financial disputes between the two countries and expand mutual ties.

Referring to the current situation in Lebanon, Scheer made it clear that the Lebanese issue had no military solution but should rather be settled through political efforts.

In Scheer's opinion, the Lebanese should be able to decide for themselves, and their views on the future of their country had nothing to do with France.

Velayati said in reply that while "sticking to our principles, we welcome expansion of ties (between Tehran and Paris) and wish the French Government to make efforts to settle financial problems between the two countries as soon as possible."

Commenting on Lebanese issue, Velayati said the condition in Lebanon was different from the past and that the struggles of the Lebanese Muslim people had shown that foreign interventions would not affect their decision to achieve the right of self-determination.

"We have ideological and emotional ties with a vast part of the Lebanese people and are helping them to vindicate their (denied) rights," Velayati pointed out.

U.S. Congress Support for Rebels Criticized

NC1509190689 Tehran ETTELAT in Persian 9 Sep 89 p 2

[Editorial: "The American Hypocrites"]

[Text] When we talk about the American hypocrites, we mean the hypocritical Americans. The U.S. congressional hypocrites have sent a letter asking the U.S. secretary of state to extend support to the Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq-e Iran Organization known in Iran as The Hypocrites]. There are certain points worth considering in the U.S. congressmen's letter:

1. The letter signed by 186 U.S. congressmen, 121 Democrats and 65 Republicans, is tantamount to a proposal to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It clearly demonstrates the extent of the malice and hatred the United States feels toward the Islamic revolution and, of course, Islam. Now that the Americans have realized that officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot be divided into radicals and moderates, we must accept that the U.S. animosity toward the Islamic Republic's system is a foregone conclusion.

2. The overt, obvious, and degrading support of the U.S. congressmen proves that the United States is a defender and supporter of international terrorism and acts blatantly and brazenly.

3. The U.S. claim to be the champion of human rights has been exposed. How is it possible for the Americans to uphold human rights and simultaneously support the Monafeqin?

Arrested 'U.S. Spy' Outlines Activities

NC2009064689 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Tehran—The U.S. intelligence agencies are using simple but deviated youths for achieving their nefarious objectives in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

So far of those who have been netted by the security forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran it is noted that these deviated people were either enticed by money, or they have nothing common in Islam.

One such U.S. spy is Siamak Emami who has been arrested by the Iranian Security Forces and is in prison.

Listing his spying activities prior to the arrest he said he was supposed to identify for the forces as to who is who and what job one was doing.

Siamak Emami said that his American bosses assigned him to recruit the Iranian youths in Turkey and West Germany.

"My victims were those of ages between 18 to 24 and those who were ready for surrender to Western culture and interested to travel abroad for study," he said.

"These were the people who were ready to cooperate with the U.S. wholeheartedly and they were not interested in the Islamic Revolution at all," he said, adding that whenever "I found such Iranian youths I used to introduce them to the American authorities.

"Once such people were enrolled, the American authorities used to give assignments to these hired people. Their job was such as to gather information. When the information was collected, these spies were supposed to transmit it through letters by post in which invisible ink was used.

Explaining further he said, "I used to write the messages between the lines of the usual letter destined abroad so that nobody could trace out what the message was."

Siamak Emami worked as a U.S. spy for two-and-half years. His other job, according to his statement, was to keep an eye on the activities of the Russians in Iran and the development in West Azerbaijan.

In an answer to a question, Siamak Emami admitted that he travelled abroad and "in fact I was recruited while I was in Turkey." He said that he received his spying training in West Germany where he met with the necessary "contacts."

"Writing with invisible ink and the way to process this ink was part of my training in West Germany," he said.

As far as "salary for spying" is concerned, the CIA befooled Siamak Emami who said that in the beginning he was promised that he would be paid 500 dollars per month. But, he said, the promise never materialized. The CIA promised payment at the next meeting and that next

meeting never came. He said he received some money which was hardly enough to meet his travelling expenses.

He said that CIA also told him that his "salary" was being deposited in a bank account which was known to the CIA only.

'Spy' Outlines Recruitment, Training, U.S. Plans

NC2009064589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 14 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] Tehran—America's notorious secret agency is desperately trying to hire mercenaries from Iran and from every possible corner of the globe. So far the favorite spots for such ventures of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to hire agents have been West Germany and Turkey.

Now an Iranian who became the victim of the CIA says, "I was hired by the CIA while I was visiting Japan."

Mohammad Mehdi 'Abbaszadeh who is now arrested by the Iranian Security Forces says, "I was in Japan when certain people arranged a meeting with the CIA for me and this way I started work for the CIA."

"Then arrangements were made for my training in West Germany where I went twice," 'Abbaszadeh said.

"They gave me training in the art of transmitting secret messages through invisible writing," he said, adding that "I was also trained in how to gather information and use a special radio for transmitting the messages and receiving instructions."

"Before my arrest I was gathering information about people who could be useful for the United States," he said.

"I belong to Khorasan Province and live in Mashhad so the CIA agents asked to prepare the ground for a counterattack against Soviet forces," he said.

He said that he was supposed to keep an eye on events in Khorasan Province including on rumors circulating in the province and of overall conditions in that province.

"I was asked to prepare military facilities including an emergency runway for military planes for deployment of American commandos and a safe place where those commandos could be hidden," 'Abbaszadeh said.

"Well, I had a poultry farm so it was easy for me to follow these instructions because the Security Forces of Iran could have no doubts about me," he said.

"I cooperated with the CIA for over a year," he said and pointed out that "the CIA initially asked me to be ready in case of a Soviet attack on Iran and arrange for the American commandos to block them."

"Mashhad is a border city on the Iran-Soviet border, so they asked me to prepare all facilities to face the Soviet invaders."

He said, "my reason for cooperation with the CIA was to defend Iran from the Soviet invasion from the northern side of the country."

"Yes, I realized from the very beginning that it was merely a pretext for bringing the terrorist forces of the U.S. to Iran and I really did not have any intention to defend Iran," he said.

"I was spying in order to get visas for myself and for my family members for travel to the U.S.," he said and admitted that others cooperated with the U.S. for the sake of money or some other personal interests.

"I doubt whether there is anyone so simple as to believe the version of the U.S. agency on defending the country," 'Abbaszadeh said.

"I regret what I did." "I'm sorry that for a small price I betrayed my country. I'm thankful to the brothers (Security Forces of Iran) who treated me well after my arrest," he said.

'Abbaszadeh said that he was hired by the CIA through friends who are living in Tokyo where he was visiting. "Initially I had an interest in visiting the U.S. I needed a visa for me and for my family. In general they (U.S. agents) exploited the weak points in each person," 'Abbaszadeh said.

Mines Minister Receives Italian Trade Delegation

LD1909154289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Italian deputy foreign trade minister, who is leading a delegation of that country's officials in Tehran, met with Mines and Metals Minister Mahlouji this morning. According to the Central News Unit, talks were held on the expansion of economic and technical cooperation. The Italian deputy foreign trade minister said: Italy attaches particular importance to cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran and we can have extensive cooperation in various economic and industrial fields. According to this report, during its stay in Iran the Italian trade delegation will also visit the Mobarakeh steel compex.

FRG Seeking Expanded Economic Ties With Iran

LD1909203489 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 19, IRNA—With a total of deutsche marks three billion worth of exports to Iran over the past three years, the Bonn government is keen to expand its economic ties with Tehran, a West German official announced here Tuesday.

Lorenz Schomerus, the Economy Ministry's director general, said the Bonn government has pursued with keen interest Iran's economic development plans and reconstruction projects since the coming to power of the new government here last month.

He also announced West Germany's readiness to cooperate with Iran in infrastructural areas such as development of petrochemical industry, steel production and agriculture.

He was speaking at a ceremony marking the national day of the Federal Republic of Germany at the 15th Tehran International Trade Fair.

In response, Ahmad Mortazavi, the director general for investment at the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs, said there were good grounds for cooperation between Iran and West Germany, which he said has stood as Tehran's largest trade partner in recent years.

"What is of great importance in Iran's cooperation with the outside world is the reliability of its partner and the efforts it makes to keep a balance in its trade with the Islamic Republic," he noted.

Karrubi Urges Closer Ties With Gulf Nations

LD2009195489 Tehran IRNA in English 1242 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran , Sept. 20, IRNA—"The Islamic Republic of Iran has always been willing to expand relations with Persian Gulf countries," said Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi here Wednesday in a meeting with the newly-appointed ambassador to Kuwait Hoseyn Sadeqi.

"The improvement in relations (with Persian Gulf States) should be based on mutal respect to each other's security and sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs of others, safeguarding basic principles of international norms and securing the rights of world Muslims," Majlis public relations office quoted Karrubi as saying.

The Majlis speaker underlined "certain regional countries had made efforts to depict a wrong picture of the Islamic Republic in other littoral countries but certain southern neighbours were vigilant and adopted wise policies as a result of which such plots were foiled."

"We hope our southern Muslim neighbours will always be vigilant and live peacefully together," said the Majlis speaker.

Velayati Meets Afghan Islamic Coalition Members

LD2009212489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Members of Afghanistan's Islamic Coalition Council, accompanied by the delegation dispatched by the mujahidin commanders from inside Afghanistan, met and conferred with our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, this afternoon. According to a Central News Unit report, in the course of this meeting—also attended by the supreme jurisconsul representative in the coalition council—Mr Velayati, referring to the extensive efforts of the Foreign Ministry, stressed the need for unity and coordination among all the Afghan mujahidin groups, and announced: The efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] in defense of Afghanistan's Islamic revolution have always continued and will be pursued with firm resolve; and the second international seminar on Afghanistan will soon be held in the Foreign Ministry bureau for political and international studies with the participation of Afghanistan's political and jihad leaders as well as reliable world experts and outstanding figures from Asia and the Middle East, in order to publicize the efforts of the mujahidin and the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

In another part of his remarks, Mr Velayati expressed gratitude for the extensive and sincere efforts of the coalition council and the dispatched delegation toward reaching full unity.

Also in this meeting, Mr Mohaqqeq, the new spokesman for the coalition council, while presenting some topics on the Afghanistan issue, stressed the need for IRI's overall support for the jihad in Afghanistan.

Also during this meeting, Mr Moballegh, the representative of the delegation dispatched by the mujahidin from inside Afghanistan, presented a detailed report on the political and social situation of Afghanistan, and while explaining the grounds for creation and safeguarding of political unity and strategic union among member groups of the coalition council, expressed hope that the Islamic jihad will achieve victory in the near future. [passage omitted]

Hakim Alleges 3 Iraqi Army Coup Attempts

LD1609062789 Tehran IRNA in English 0600 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Zanjan, Sept. 16, IRNA—The Iraqi Army staged three unsuccesful coups d'etat in the past year, said head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Hojjat ol-Eslam Bakr Hakim here Friday.

Addressing the Friday prayer ceremony, he said that the anti-regime struggle of the Iraq people intensified after Iran accepted the cease-fire in Aug. 1988. This he said is indicative of high degree of dissatisfaction of the people with the regime, the armed forces in particular.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim said the opposition of the army is of great significance because the Iraqi regime for its survivial relies on the armed forces. The coups also show disputes within the leadership, he told the worshippers.

More on internal situation of Iraq, Hakim said the ban on publication of religious books is still holding and the list includes some 1,200 titles.

On repressive measures of the Iraqi regime, he said at least 600 Iraqi prisoners were executed for having mourned the passing away of the late leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni last June.

UN's Goulding Continues Visit to Iran

Received by Velayati 19 Sep

LD1909123789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Mr Goulding, the UN deputy secretary general for special political affairs, who has come to Tehran on the eve of the start of the new term of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group [UNIIMOG], met Foreign Minister Velayati today.

According to the Central News Unit, during the meeting UNIIMOG's lack of success in performing all its duties, due to the refusal of the Iraqi regime to withdraw to recognized international forces, was emphasized.

Issues concerning the UNIIMOG forces also were discussed during the meeting.

Prior to this meeting, according to the Central News Unit, Mr Goulding discussed issues regarding UN activities related to supervision of the cease-fire during a meeting with Mr Mottaki, deputy foreign minister for international affairs.

Visits UNIIMOG at Western Front

LD2009201789 Tehran IRNA in English 1307 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept. 20, IRNA—United Nations Assistant Secretary General Marrack Goulding arrived here today to visit United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) in the western fronts and file a report. Before arrival in Tehran Monday Goulding had inspected the Iraqi side of the border in the first leg of his visit to the region.

Goulding, accompanied by UNIIMOG Commander Major General Slavko Jovic, and the new UNIIMOG Chief in Iran Brigadier General Pertage Kallstrom, was welcomed by UNIIMOG forces at Bakhtaran Airport.

The UN envoy later left for the site of UNIIMOG forces in the northwestern fronts.

Commentary Views UNIIMOG Mission

LD2009205989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1114 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, greetings to you dear listeners. On the eve of the extension of the UN Observer Forces mission, UN undersecretary Marrack Goulding, who is presently visiting Iran, met and conferred with our country's foreign and defense ministers. In the course of his 3-day visit, the UN undersecretary inspected the front lines and compiled a report on the activities carried out by the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group [UNIIMOG], to be submitted to the Security Council, which will provide the basis for the extension of those forces' mission by another 6 months. [passage omitted]

No initiatives have hitherto been taken with regard to the observance of the withdrawal of the two countries' forces to behind the internationally recognized boundaries, and the prevention of a delay in the existing deadlock, as a result of disagreement between the protagonists in the negotiations over final implementation of that stage of the resolution. The failure of UNIIMOG in carrying out all its obligations as a result of the Iraqi refusal to withdraw to behind the internationally recognized boundaries is an issue that has constantly been reiterated by the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials in their meetings with UN officials.

In any case, on the eve of the anniversary of the Iraqi violation and the start of the imposed war, which sustained irreparable damages in creating instability and tension in the region and in view of a resolution of which only one part of its first clause has been implemented, it is important that the UN Security Council should make renewed efforts for the implementation of a resolution that is a basis for the re-establishment of peace and stability in the region.

However, since Resolution 598 is considered a resolution whose implementation is binding, the Security Council is obliged to deploy the necessary resources and adequate international levers for its implementation, as well as the secretary general, in view of the powers vested in him as the official responsible for the implementation of the resolution through persuading and compelling the Iraqi regime to adhere to the international principles and the UN Charter.

Khamene'i Addresses Hizballah Supporters

LD2009195889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, this morning received a group of various strata of the Hizballah Ummah. He called the invasion of parts of Iranian territory by the Iraqi regime an act which threatens peace in the region. He stressed that the Muslim and revolutionary nation of Iran has shown by experience and practice that it cannot tolerate the occupation of even one inch of its territory by the enemy.

The Central News Unit reports that the meeting was accompanied by the enthusiastic expression of sentiments by those present, who chanted: Khamene'i is the leader, he inherits from the Prophet; and God's hand is on our head, Khamene'i is our leader.

The leader of the Islamic revolution delivered a detailed speech to the gathering in connection with the forthcoming Week of Sacred Defense. He pointed to the defeat of the Iraqi regime in the imposed war and to the victory of the great and proud nation of Iran, graciously

adding: The Iraqi regime—which was receiving financial, manpower, intellectual, and technical aid from the East and West, from Europe, the United States, and Arab reaction—completely failed in all its aims that it pursued by imposing the war on the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI], thereby getting a bad name and an ill reputation in the world. The Saddam regime sought to topple the Islamic regime, the disintegration of Iran, and to deal a blow to our armed forces. However, our Islamic system was strengthened day-by-day, while the solidarity of the country reached a supreme level. More than any other time, today our armed forces are experienced, strong, and ready to defend.

Our enemies tried to make people pessimistic about Islam and the IRI. However, the faith, piety, growth, awareness, and the presence of this nation on the various scenes of defending Islam and the revolution were enhanced. This in itself was a great debacle for the enemy and a great victory for the Iranian nation, which, without relying on others, prevented the enemy from reaching its aims.

The leader of the IRI criticized the United Nations and international organs for their complacency and for refraining from exerting the necessary pressure on the Iraqi regime to accept the implementation of Resolution 598. He further stressed the necessity of implementation of that resolution in the order of its clauses. He graciously said: Bringing the issue of carrying out direct negotiations onto the agenda, if it means ignoring the resolution and its clauses, is in no way acceptable. This resolution, which grants the right to the one who deserves it, must be implemented, as the power of our nation is behind it.

His Eminence recalled the necessity of total withdrawal of the enemy from the occupied parts of our country as the first step toward the implementation of Resolution 598. He graciously added: The withdrawal of the enemy is a threat to peace in the region. [sentence as heard] This is indeed the spirit of aggressionism that the Iraqi regime has shown during the past few years. The whole world knows that a revolutionary nation will not tolerate one inch of its country's territory remaining under enemy occupation. The Iranian nation, through preserving the factors for victory—that is, unity, solidarity, reliance on God while not relying on others—must make the enemies and aggressors forget about any aggression.

The leader of the Islamic revolution pointed to the extensive propaganda carried out by the enemies of Islam during past years, graciously adding: since the beginning of the revolution to this day, momentous propaganda has been waged against Islam, the imam, the revolution, and the great nation of Iran. Our enemies have waged propaganda against a war in which we were engaged in defending Islam, the homeland, and our integrity and pride. Radio stations, newspapers, articles, books, and magazines have all been used against the IRI and for the purpose of diverting people's opinions. He further considered the arena of propaganda as very extensive and dangerous, while stressing the necessity of confrontation against such poisonous propaganda of global arrogance by orators, writers, and faithful and aware artists. He added: Our people are safe and immune against enemy propaganda, because they have no confidence in the baseless remarks of the propaganda organs of the world. Although the network of the propaganda and the global loudspeakers is very extensive, our correct stances have left—and will leave—their impact on the healthy minds of millions of people the world over. [passage omitted]

Khamene'i Names Defense Ministry Religious Chief

LD1909123489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Revolution, issued a decree today, appointing Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Qa'emi as head of the politico-religious organization of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics. The text of the decree is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Shaykh Mehdi Qa'emi, may your blessings continue. In accordance with the law on the establishment of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, I hereby appoint your excellency as head of the politico-religious organization of that ministry. It is expected that in view of your excellency's good record and practical experience in various fields, you will perform your duty in accordance with the regulations and in the best possible manner, God willing. I ask almighty God to grant you success.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, 28th Shahrivar 68 [corresponding to 19 September 1989]

Military Parades Announced for Defense Week

LD2009143189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The interview of Mr Safa'i, representative of the vali-ye faqi [supreme jurisconsult, Khamene'i] and head of the ideologico-political organization of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with reporters concerning the programs prepared by the Army during Holy Defense Week is the first newsreport, to which we draw your attention.

According to the report of the Central News Unit, the head of the ideologico-political organization of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in this interview, while inviting people to participate in extensive and united fashion, said in connection with the programs for this week: On 22 September, the day of renewing our pledge with his eminence the imam [Khomeyni]—may his dust be sanctified—a splendid parade of the ground, air, and naval units of the Armed Forces will be staged beside the pure shrine of the great leader of the Islamic Revolution from 0730 hours in the morning [0400 GMT]; and the

soldiers of Islam, along with their equipment, will display the strength of the Islamic Republic of Iran in opposition to the enemies of the Islamic homeland. [passage omitted]

He added: After the parades of the Armed Forces, parading units along with the martyr-nurturing ummah will take part in the Friday prayer ceremonies, which will be performed beside the pure grave of his eminence the imam. He also announced an exhibition of war booties, participation in the arts and literature complex of the museum of modern art, which will be exhibiting more than 270 photographs of the war, and the dispatch of art groups such as play and film groups to the fronts, were among other programs of the Army during Holy Defense Week, and he added: During that week three military maneuvers in the west, south, and northeast of the country will be staged with the participation of infantry, engineer, guns, communications, armoured, and Army aviation units. Also, another operational maneuver will be staged by the 23d Army Corps of the Army aviation forces and the Rangers of training center 01, in the Karaj Dam 23-28 September, from 0900-1130 hours in the morning [0550-0800 GMT]. [passage omitted]

Naval Commander Notes Armed Forces' Readiness

NC2109080089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Admiral Malekzadegan, commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, visited the factories in Bandar-e 'Abbas naval precinct number 1 yesterday afternoon. He said the navy has attained a level of complete capability in manufacturing destroyers.

He explained the navy's progress in combat, defense, and industry and confirmed that the navy is absolutely prepared to defend the Islamic homeland against all aggression and encroachment.

About the navy's progress in industry, Admiral Malekzadegan said: Iran's navy rebuilt the "Sabalan" warship which the U.S. aggressors totally damaged in battle, and it is now able to manufacture heavy and modern destroyers. The capability of the navy's factories in the construction, repairs, and rebuilding of various parts and components of various vessels has risen considerably and the navy will soon begin to manufacture destroyers according to plan. The naval commander said: Various units from the Iranian Navy will participate in the Zolfaqar-5 maneuvers scheduled for the end of the month of Azar [22 November-21 December] this year.

Maldives

Indian Troops in Maldives To Withdraw 3 Nov

BK1909125489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1246 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 19 (AFP)—Indian troops deployed in the Maldives after a mercenary invasion of the Indian Ocean atoll nation last year will return home on November 3, Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom announced Tuesday [19 September].

"They have been there for a specific purpose. Their mission is over," the 52-year-old president told a press conference here, shortly before rounding off his two-day visit to India.

Mr. Gayoom put the number of Indian soldiers in the Maldives at "slightly less than 200." An Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman put the figure at 162.

Death Sentence Commuted for 16 in Coup Attempt

BK1809003789 Hong Kong AFP in English 1821 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 17 (AFP)—Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom Sunday [17 September] commuted the death sentences of four Maldivians and 12 Sri Lankans convicted of staging an armed attack to oust him from the Indian Ocean atoll nation.

Officials on the capital island, Male, said Mr. Gayoom, 52, went on state television and the Voice of Maldives radio station late Sunday to announce his decision to commute the sentences to life imprisonment on humanitarian grounds.

"Mr. Gayoom said although the convicts fully deserved the death sentence for the terrible crime perpetrated by them, he had considered their appeals and decided to spare their lives," a Male official contacted by telephone from here said.

The president said he had taken a long time to consider the convicts' appeals and commuted the sentences after taking into consideration the "long-term interest of the country and on humanitarian grounds."

On August 12, the Maldives High Court found coup leader and local businessman 'Abdallah Lutfi, three other Maldivians and 12 Sri Lankan Tamil merceneries guilty of staging a November 3 armed attack on Male and ordered them before a firing squad.

The High Court also found 56 other Sri Lankan Tamils and three more Maldivians guilty of involvement in the armed attack and sentenced them to prison terms up to 38 years.

Mr. Gayoom accused a Sri Lankan Tamil guerrilla group, the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), of carrying out the attack against his peaceful equatorial nation of 1,192 tiny coral islands.

Mr. Gayoom's announcement came ahead of a two-day official visit to neighbouring India. He is scheduled to arrive in New Delhi Monday afternoon for talks with Indian leaders including Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The Maldivian president is also expected to meet Indian Vice President Shankar Dayal Sharma and other ministers and address a press conference Tuesday before returning to Male in a special Indian Air Force aircraft.

The November 3 coup was put down after the loss of at least 20 lives, mostly of Maldivians, when Mr. Gayoom sought and received military aid from India.

New Delhi still maintains a small military presence in the capital and at Hululle Island where the international airport is located.

The death sentence has not been carried out in the Maldives since 1953, officials said.

Murder is virtually unheard of in the Maldives, and the last killing was six years ago when a German tourist murdered his fiance on a street on Male.

Nepal & Bhutan

Reportage on Nepali Congress Party Demonstration

Opposition Leaders Arrested

BK1509160989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Several members of the banned Nepali Congress were arrested in Kathmandu today as they went to present a 25-point memorandum to the zonal commissioner at the end of their week-long mass awakening program. According to the Nepali Congress sources, those arrested included Rashtriya Panchayat [parliament] members, former ministers, and prominent citizens. The memorandum demanded a national government and multiparty system in the country. It also protested against high prices, shortages, and corruption.

1,200 Activists, Students Arrested

BK1509161689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1608 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 15 (AFP)—Some 1,200 students and activists of the banned Nepali Congress party were arrested Friday [15 September] throughout Nepal as the authorities moved to foil the last day of a week-long campaign, party sources said.

The arrests took place in Kathmandu, Bharatpur, Chitaun and Jhapa and brought the total number of arrests on the week to some 3,000, said sources of the outlawed party.

The Home Ministry has said however that only 624 people have been arrested on charges of "trying to disrupt the security situation" and for misleading the people. The government also said that 432 people had been released as of Thursday.

On Friday, helmeted police wielding batons arrested more than 200 members of the banned party, students and politicians marching to the zonal commissioner's office in Kathmandu, injuring several people, witnesses and party sources said.

The banned party began on September 9 a week-long "Peoples' Awakening Week" to commemorate the 76th anniversary of the birth of its late leader Bisweswore Prasad Koirala, who died in 1982.

Yog Prasad Upadhyaya, spokesman for the banned party, said "till today altogether over 3,000 Nepali Congress cadres, students, youths and other pro democrat symphatizers were arrested."

The Nepali Congress spokesman said 24 students and party activists in Kathmandu were being tried under the police act.

Riot police were seen guarding the main entrance of the Kathmandu zonal commissioner's office, which was bolted from inside.

An eyewitness said "at least two truck loads and one large police van loaded with people" were hauled away by police.

The witness said those arrested included human (?rights) activist R.K. Shah, a former foreign minister; Padma Ratna Tuladhar, a member of parliament; Surya Bahadur Shakya, chairman of the People's Consumer Forum and Hari Bol Bhattarai and Tirtha Ram Dongol, respectively the suspended mayor and deputy mayor of Kathmandu.

The banned party spokesman said 700 people had been arrested in Chitaun in the past week. He said shops and educational institutions went on strike Friday in Chitaun to protest arrests and police brutality.

In the districts of Jhapa and Bharatpur, more than 300 people were arrested for attempting to march to rural areas to record public grievances and hand them over to the heads of the district and village governments.

Friday was the last day of the week long celebration, intended by the party to be a trial of its strength before a planned political campaign this fall to demand the dissolution of the current 29-year-old partyless system and a revival of a multi-party one.

Police Continue To Detain 21 People

BK1609090489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] In Kathmandu, 21 people have been detained in police custody out of about 200 arrested yesterday in connection with the Mass Awakening Week organized by the banned Nepali Congress. The others have been released. According to banned Nepali sources, those detained include former minister Mr Harishikesh Saha, two members of the Rashtriya Panchayat [parliament]—Mr Padmaratna Tuladhar and Mr Drona Pradhan Acharya—and the president of the Nepal Viddyarthi Sangh [Students Union], Mr Balkrishna Khane.

King Returns Home After 17-Day Foreign Tour

BK1709144489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 17 (AFP)—King Birendra returned here Sunday [17 September] from a 17-day trip abroad during which he attended the ninth Nonaligned Movement summit meeting in Belgrade and paid a state visit to Finland, official sources said.

Queen Aishwarya and Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya accompanied him.

The royal couple left here on September 1, making a three-day private stop in Istanbul before proceeding to Belgrade.

In Belgrade King Birendra held two rounds of talks with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The king has expressed optimism in the future of Indo-Nepalese relations.

The two countries have since agreed to hold talks in their respective capitals to resolve their current trade dispute, to be followed up at the foreign ministerial level.

The trade impasse has caused great economic hardship to Nepalese of all walks of life and has harmed Nepal's national economy since treaties between New Delhi and Kathmandu governing trade expired in March, political observers here said.

The king left Belgrade for a three-day stay in Prague, then paid a five-day state visit to Finland at the invitation of President Mauno Koivisto and his wife.

The royal pair's final stop was a private three-day visit to Kuwait, where King Birendra conferred with Amir Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, official sources said.

Export Earnings Down, Foreign Currency Tightened

BK1809111789 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 18 Sep 89

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 18 (AFP)—Dwindling foreign exchange earnings caused by Nepal's six-month trade row with India have forced the government to implement strict foreign exchange controls, a Finance Ministry official said.

The restrictions, limiting to as little as 200 dollars the amount of foreign exchange those travelling overseas may buy, were imposed in a bid to restrict futher draining of the country's diminished foreign reserves, the official said.

Nepal's overseas export earnings have fallen sharply since the 1978 Indo-Nepalese treaties on trade and transit expired on March 23, the official said.

The official said the drop could be seen in the trade figures for fiscal 1988, which ended in mid-July, showing Nepal's exports totaled 4.15 billion rupees (150.91 million dollars), well below some economists' prediction of 230 million dollars in exports.

Meanwhile, imports totaled 16.24 billion rupees (590.54 million dollars).

Imports from India alone came to 4.21 billion rupees (153.09 million dollars) over the same period, against just 990 million rupees (36 million dollars) in exports.

There have been no official exports to India since March 23. India has refused to renew the treaties in a row over whether trade and transit should be negotiated separately, as Nepal wishes, or jointly, as preferred by India.

The dispute has seen New Delhi close nearly all the transit routes into landlocked Nepal, causing acute shortages of fuel and basic goods.

Meanwhile, the demand for Indian currency has been growing, because traders cannot export products to cover their imports and so must pay in hard cash.

The public exchequer recently had to buy Indian rupees from the national treasury to meet public demand, the ministry official said.

"On one hand, exports to India have completely stopped, and on the other hand, the demand for the Indian currency is being escalated every day, which has caused a grave situation in the country," an economist here said.

It was to deal with the currency shortfall that the government has limited the amount of foreign currency that Nepalese citizens can take abroad, the ministry official said.

Under the regulations, visitors to Burma, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka or the Maldives may exchange 200 dollars worth of Nepalese rupees once a year.

Visitors to other South and Southeast Asian countries may swap 300 dollars, while those going to South Korea, Japan, Europe, North or South America, Australia or New Zealand will be allowed to exchange 500 dollars a year.

The limits will not apply to persons on official or business visits.

Foreign exchange facilities would be provided only to those with confirmed tickets, officials said, and there would be no exchange facilities for buying tickets on routes served by Royal Nepal Airlines (RNA), the national carrier.

Foreign currency may be bought only for air tickets on routes where RNA does not operate, the officials said.

Economic analysts here said the government faced a demand for foreign and Indian currencies amounting to

an average of 65 million to 70 million rupees (2.36 million to 2.54 million dollars) daily, since the exports' slump.

"The Nepalese public exchequer had a reserve of foreign currency worth 8.6 billion rupees (312.73 million dollars) in the national treasury by the last week of May 1989," enough for six months of imports, an analyst said.

The restrictions were expected to last only until a agreement was reached in the Indo-Nepalese trade dispute, a source in the Federation of Nepalese Industry and Commerce (FNIC) said.

Analysts said that if the restrictions last more than a few months, they could greatly discourage Nepalese traders and travellers, as well as boost the foreign-exchange black market and escalate the price of consumer goods.

The dollar's black-market rate was already some 25 per cent higher than the official rate and would likely rise further if the restrictions continued, the FNIC source said, adding this could also affect the exchequer's reserves.

Pakistan

Senate Informed of Nuclear Power Plans

BK2109083789 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The Senate was informed today that capability is being developed to design, manufacture, and construct nuclear power plants in the country to meet the growing needs of electricity. The minister of state for parliamentary affairs, Dr Sher Afghan, told the house during question hour that efforts are also being made to acquire nuclear power plants from abroad. The French Government has shown interest in supply of the plant under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards without insisting that Pakistan should sign the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty [as heard]. The acceptance of this offer is linked with the resolution of the outstanding issues of the reprocessing plant (?problem).

The minister of state for finance, Mr Ehsanul Haq Piracha, told the house that the government of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] is fully conscious of its responsibility for acquisition of nuclear technology to bridge the growing gap between demand and production of power. The previous PPP government had signed an agreement with France and immediately after assumption of office by the present government, it took up the matter again with that country. The issue was discussed during prime minister's visit to France and will be pursued when the French president visits Pakistan in near future.

Bhutto Visits Late Punjab Assembly Member's Home

BK2009140889 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, flew to Jahanian in Khanewal District this afternoon to offer condolence on the death of a member of Punjab Assembly, Mr Mohammad Aslam Randhawa. She offered fateha [prayer for the dead] for the departed soul and remained with the members of the bereaved family for some time.

Addressing a gathering at the residence of late Mr Randhawa, the prime minister said the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government wants to establish a society free from exploitation. It was making efforts to provide incentives to the laborers, (?soldiers, and students).

She was accompanied by federal ministers, Mr Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari, Khwaja Tariq Rahim, Mr Yusuf Raza Gilani, Mr Jahangir Badar, and a former speaker of National Assembly Sahabzada Farooq Ali.

Bhutto on Differences Between Punjab, Government

BK2009144289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto has said that the federal government has set up a provincial coordination committee to settle certain issues in connection with interprovincial affairs. She was speaking to newsmen at Multan Airport this evening.

The prime minister said certain differences between the federal and Punjab governments are, in reality, differences between two political parties. Describing them as regrettable, she said the federal government wants to end these differences.

Bail Petitions Submitted for Two FIA Officers

BK2009155789 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The bail petitions of the two FIA [Federal Investigation Agency] officers arrested by Punjab police were submitted for hearing before a Lahore High Court judge, Justice Ershad Hussain Khan, in Lahore today. After hearing the appeal of the petitioners and the arguments of the Punjab advocate general, the judge's order directed the petitioners to refer to the sessions court, Lahore, for disposal of their bail petitions. He directed the sessions judge to address these petitions at the earliest.

Official Statement on FIA Arrests

BK2109044589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] An official statement issued in Islamabad has said that the federal government has expressed concern over last Monday's [18 September] incident in which two

officers of the FIA [Federal Investigation Agency] were harassed and arrested in a false case. The statement said that such an act by a governmental organization of Punjab against the federal government body is incomprehensible. Senior police officers of the province, especially the inspector general of police and senior superintendent of police of Lahore, not only failed to protect the interests of the federal government, but also ignored their subordinates' taking the law into their own hands. The statement said that being highly responsible and experienced police officers, they are not bound to carry out illegal orders. Due to their incorrect attitude and failure to fulfill their duties, they have been recalled from their services so that they can be appointed under the federal government. In addition, the chief secretary and the information secretary of Punjab have also been found to be involved in politics, and were found to be exceeding their duties to serve the political interests of a certain political party. For this reason, they have also been recalled so that they can be appointed under the federal government.

An interior ministry spokesman in Islamabad has said that the Ministries of Interior and Law and Justice are examining the Punjab government's rebellious attitude against the federal government. He said that the arrest of FIA personnel is an unprecedented event and the action is ill-intentioned. The spokesman said that the arrest of the FIA personnel is part of a series of incidents aimed at hurting the Constitution and the legal rights of the federal government.

Revenue Minister of Punjab Arshad Lodhi, addressing a news conference in Lahore last night accused the federal government of aiming at its political opponents as targets of vengeance. Explaining the situation in connection with the arrest of two FIA officers by the Punjab police, he said that the government in Punjab adheres fully to the Constitution and law, adding that the FIA will not be allowed to intimidate any citizen in the province.

Minor Reshuffle of Cabinet Reported

BK2109004489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] According to a notification issued in Islamabad today, Mr Ahmad Saeed Awan, minister of state for industry has been redesignated as minister of state for information and broadcasting. He will cease to be the minister of state for industry.

According to another notification, the minister of state for information and broadcasting, Mr Javed Jabbar, has been redesignated as minister of state for science and technology.

Mr Jahangir Badar, minister of petroleum and natural resources will not hold additional portfolio of science and technology.

Yaqub Khan Speaks on Foreign Policy 20 Sep

BK2009165289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said Pakistan's foreign policy upholds the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, nonuse of force, good neighborliness, peaceful coexistence, and friendly cooperation for shared benefits. He was speaking at the inauguration of the ninth specialized course for probationers of Foreign Service of Pakistan and trainee diplomats from 12 African countries in Islamabad this afternoon.

The foreign minister said Pakistan's foreign policy is fashioned to a considerable extent by regional security environment. Because of its geostrategic situation, Pakistan remains the focus of great-powers interest.

About the South Asian region, he said India aspires to be counted among the major nations of the world and to make its weight felt. Other factors shaping the geopolitical environment of the region are the major powers.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan told the trainee diplomats that foreign policy must retain freedom of action on a margin of manoeuvre so that options are not [word indistinct] and equilibrium is not lost. Same goes to the state of the domestic situation; and public opinion at home is a cardinal consideration.

Cypriot Foreign Minister Visits, Meets Leaders

Meets Yaqub Khan

NC1609183189 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1500 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iacovou, who is on an official visit to Pakistan, met privately with Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan today and briefed him on the latest developments in the Cyprus issue.

The two ministers and other officials from the two sides later held talks at the Foreign Ministry. The discussions centered on the Cyprus issue, regional problems, and international matters of mutual interest. Foreign Ministry officials also hosted an official dinner in honor of Iacovou.

An official statement described the atmosphere of both the private meeting and the official dinner as friendly and constructive.

Meets President, Bhutto

BK1709162089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The Cypriot foreign minister, Mr Yeoryios Iakovou, separately called on the president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, in Islamabad today. The prime minister told the Cypriot

foreign minister that Pakistan favors an early solution of the Cyprus issue based on principles of bizonal and bicommunal federation. She hoped that bilateral negotiations between the leaders of the two communities [in Cyprus] under the auspices of the UN secretary general will resume soon.

Clashes Reported at Karachi Colleges; 6 Injured

BK2009160989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Six students were injured today in clashes between two rival groups in Sind medical college in Karachi. Three students were operated on at the post-graduate medical center, and three have been kept for observation. There are also reports about gunfire at three other medical colleges.

DAWN Discusses Zahir Shah Role in Afghanistan

BK2109094589 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "The Zahir Shah Option"]

[Text] Although the Bush Administration does not consider its consultations with the former king of Afghanistan an extraordinary event, the US envoy's meeting with King Zahir Shah in Rome is indicative of some movement on the stalemated Afghan diplomatic front. Not that the ex-king would be a readily acceptable option to all mujahidin. Some among them find him tilting too heavily towards Moscow. But some others have not rejected him out of hand. Of course, at this stage a political settlement on Afghanistan is not an object of active striving. The American commitment to the mujahidin's military struggle still remains strong. Moreover, the guerrillas leaders are not inclined to enter into negotiations for a broad-based government either. This is in spite of the fact that, with the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, the conflict in Afghanistan no longer looks like a war of liberation. Some of the field commander are said to have concluded a truce with the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] government and are not fighting any longer. On the other hand some of the fighting there has of late assumed the form of factional clashes among the guerrilla groups, with each of them vying for supremacy over its rivals. The Afghan Interim Government (AIG), put together in February to spearhead the liberation of the country, is now coming unstuck as internecine rivalry and clashes intensify and take their toll. Mr Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the hardline Foreign Minister, has already announced his decision to dissociate himself from the AIG. With the Soviet forces out of the country, there seems little incentive for the disparate mujahidin groups with conflicting ideological inclinations and political ambitions to stay together.

With the once-united resistance showing signs of loss of cohesion, common sense and wisdom demand that options other than a military solution be explored in all seriousness. Historical experience has shown on a number of occassions that a centralised political dispensation in Afghanistan which does not enjoy the support of local centres of power is usually not durable. Hence, for any political arrangement to be reasonably stable, it is necessary that it should have the backing of the regional leadership. Moreover, a delicate balance will have to be worked out among the different tribal, ethnic and sectarian groups. All this calls for comprehensive negotiations to be conducted in an atmosphere of trust and goodwill. Pakistan has repeatedly expressed its support for a broadbased government in Afghanistan, without specifying how this objective is to be achieved. Islamabad, however, considers itself bound by the UN Assembly's resolution which entrusts Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar with the mandate to facilitate a comprehensive political settlement. This should, therefore, be the right time to reactivate the UN's role in Afghanistan. Since Mr Perez de Cuellar would be required to consult all parties involved in the conflict, contact with Zahir Shah should not be excluded on the only ground that some mujahidin leaders have reservations about him on account of his past policies. The reservations are not without a basis. But things change, and it is possible the ex-King's former ideas might have changed, too. This is not to assert, though, that the ex-King has become indispensable to the success of any new initiative.

It would not be wise, however, to slam the door on any exercise in diplomacy, especially when the mujahidin have no agreed solution to offer. What should, however, be ensured is that whatever settlement is ultimately drawn up is based on the right of self-determination of the people of Afghanistan.